

I am a woman, a long-time registered Democrat, a longtime resident of Montgomery County, and a long-time feminist. SB798, the Abortion Amendment, clearly promotes abortion and would be used to strike down any reasonable limits on abortion. It makes abortion the norm, thus distracting society and policy makers from advancing maternity leave, prenatal care, wrap-around pregnancy support, and other policies that promote and empower women. Women, especially poor women, deserve better. Abortion, overall, hurts women, and continues the sexist oppression women have experienced for millennia.

This Abortion Amendment could be a part of Maryland's Constitution for decades, even centuries, and trap Maryland in our 2023 frame of mind. It would continue to promote the fallacy that children are a problem to be solved, rather than a gift to one's family and to society.

I am proud of many of the progressive laws in Maryland. SB798 is bad for Maryland women, families, and citizens. Good laws are those that support racial and economic equality, provide for the needs of pregnant women and their children, and make medical care and child care affordable for all.

I am strongly opposed to the Abortion Amendment.

-Mary Beaudoin, Silver Spring MD