

Bill HB705 “Declaration of Rights – Right to Reproductive Freedom”

Position – Opposed

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This testimony is written in opposition to HB705. Abortion is already protected in Maryland state law. Currently, Maryland has some of the most permissive, extreme and barbaric laws in place which are not affected by the recent Supreme Court ruling. Incidentally, abortion is not healthcare, has nothing to do with reproductive rights, nor is it a human right; it is indefensible, as it takes the life of a child.

Pregnancy centers across the country provide free and confidential resources and supplies to anyone in need. They typically offer most, if not all, of the following: pregnancy tests, limited ultrasounds, abortion pill reversals, abortion recovery programs, maternity clothes, prenatal vitamins, baby essentials and supplies, referrals for community and social services, childbirth and parenting classes and fatherhood mentorship programs. They provide counseling and complete information to anyone who is pregnant regarding the choices available to them and the ramifications of each of those choices. Pregnancy centers do not charge clients for services or assistance.

Women should be provided with real choices, not coerced into doing what they believe will be an easy way out, only to find that their choice led to more devastation and pain than they could have imagined. Abortion kills children and hurts women. Women should be provided with all the facts empowering them to make informed decisions for themselves and their families.

Do lawmakers not see the irony in the fact that by supporting the “right to reproductive freedom” the government is sanctioning the intrusion into a woman’s body to end a person’s life, who also has rights? A person with their own unique DNA, separate from the mother’s DNA. Do we not, as citizens of this state, have a moral obligation to protect children? Are they not citizens, too? Does the state really not understand that a baby in the womb is also an individual worthy of protection? How can anyone ignore the fact that, on average, 77 individual humans are slaughtered each day in Maryland due to abortion?

We need our elected leaders to support a more reasonable, informed and humane position on abortion restrictions. Please stand with your voters against this unnecessary and extreme bill.