

PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB 705.

Our state and country have made good, valuable and gradual progress in protecting the rights of groups of people who had previously been considered unworthy: women, Black Americans, people with disabilities, people of varying sexual and gender identities. It is good that we are able to change our laws as needed to protect and promote the rights of people who have not been protected in the past. Likewise, I want Maryland to be able to progress to protect people of all ages and not be trapped in a situation in which the human dignity of a child who is still in the womb cannot be protected like we have protected so many others. In time people who understand science will recognize that human life deserves dignity and protection at all stages of human development whether fetus, infant, adolescent, or elder.

I know you believe that you are defending the right to abortion to protect women, but there is no need for a Constitutional amendment. Abortion is already protected by Maryland law.

I beg you not to support the effort of HB 705 to add abortion to the State of Maryland Constitution. It is short sighted and potentially will confine Marylanders to laws that they later decide need to be changed.

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