

**Abortion Amendment, House Bill 705 - Unfavorable  
Declaration of Rights - Right to Reproductive Liberty**

My name is Dr. Kathryn Quinn. I work as an Emergency Medicine Physician and am a proud resident of Maryland. I submit this testimony on my own behalf and not on behalf of my employer.

As a woman and a physician, I would like to speak to the distinction between elective abortions and medically indicated abortions. Many abortion advocates impune this distinction, but as a physician I can assure you that it is real, commonsensical, important, and valuable for the highest quality healthcare.

The distinction between elective and medically indicated abortions is also essential for building a bridge of dialogue and mutual understanding between the advocates and critics of abortion. As someone who has always considered myself “pro-life,” who has lived and worked with many fellow “pro-lifers,” and who has often been called upon to explain the pro-life position to people who decidedly do not identify with it, I can assure you that when the pro-life community criticizes abortion, they primarily have elective abortion in mind. To listen to the pro-life community with this in mind is to better understand our concerns, and be able to dialogue with us.

I am proud to support the [American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#) (AAPLOG). AAPLOG is the leading center for medicine which affirms the life of the mother and her preborn child, for medicine which does everything in its powers to preserve the life of both patients. Unfortunately, contemporary medicine is not always able to save both lives in every situation. In those circumstances, we do what is necessary to preserve the life we can (including what could be called medically-indicated “abortions”) and we mourn the life that is lost. There is no need for a “right to abortion” to protect true healthcare. 86 to 93% of practicing OBGYN’s in the United States do not perform elective abortions. This is a powerful indication that healthcare does not include elective abortion.

I oppose abortion violence as a violation of the Hippocratic oath and the sacred duty of the doctor to serve all her patients, both those born and preborn. No one has a right to do violence to another person; there should not be a right to abortion in the Maryland Constitution.

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*Equality and  
Justice for ALL!*



**NO ON HB705**  
**ABORTION**  
**AMENDMENT**