



Indivisible: Central Maryland

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TESTIMONY FOR SB0859 Reproductive Health Protection Act

Bill Sponsor: Senator Smith

Committee: Judicial Proceedings

Organization Submitting: Indivisible Central Maryland

Person Submitting: Liz Enagonio, Lead Advocate and Susan Radke, lead advocates

Position: FAVORABLE

Our names are Liz Enagonio and Susan Radke, representing both ourselves and Indivisible Central Maryland, a grassroots organization of constituents dedicated to protecting progressive and democratic values. Indivisible Central Maryland **strongly supports SB0859**.

Since the Supreme Court of the United States overturned Roe v Wade, taking away a 50 year precedent of federal protection for the rights of reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy for women, reproductive freedom is under attack. many states have taken away the right to abortion, including post-miscarriage care, under all or almost all circumstances. As well, these state legislatures are attempting to restrict the rights of other states to provide reproductive care, including abortion care, by passing legislation that would allow them to prosecute providers in states that legally provide reproductive care to a resident from the restrictive state who seeks care in the less-restrictive state.

SB0859 states unequivocally that Maryland will not support out-of-state investigations about legal reproductive health care in our state. We will NOT support states that attempt to intimidate our providers or threaten their state residents who travel to Maryland to seek reproductive care that is legal here, as it should be. With this bill, Maryland will protect health care providers, patients, and people who assist or support patients from criminal charges, civil litigation and administrative penalties. Maryland can only maintain our reproductive freedom if we shield ourselves from the threats and intimidation tactics of other states. Indivisible Central Maryland **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB0859**, and urges a favorable vote in committee. Thank you.