



Delegates Nicole Williams and Delegate Terri Hill  
House Office Building  
6 Bladen St.  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Honorable Nicole Williams and Delegate Terri Hill,

On behalf of the *Medical Students For Choice Chapter at the University of Maryland School of Medicine* I **strongly support** House Bill 808 for Maryland's Reproductive Health Protection Act. As part of Medical Students for Choice, we believe that all people should have access to health services that allow them to lead safe, healthy lives including all aspects of sexual and reproductive health consistent with their own personal and cultural values. In order to ensure reproductive rights are protected it is critical to protect our providers.

This legislation will provide the protection so providers will not be at risk of out-of-state investigations about legal reproductive health care in our state. This is critical so providers can feel safe to provide the care needed for their patient population without fear of retaliation or intimidation. Providers already take on a large burden of providing care for this patient population through their medical training, emotional support, and physical labor. Providers need to be confident that they will be protected from criminal charges, civil litigations, and administrative penalties. This law will prevent additional burden on providers.

This is critical as more out-of-state patients are being forced to seek abortion care in Maryland. Additionally, providers are also being forced to relocate to Maryland if their home state enforces restrictive abortion laws. It is imperative that Maryland provides legal protections so we can remain a safe haven for these patients and providers. Without these legislations, no state will be safe from these punitive consequences.

If we are to protect abortion rights, we need to protect our providers. This law will ensure Maryland remains an abortion safe state.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any further information, please contact Hannah Palmer at [hpalmer@som.umaryland.edu](mailto:hpalmer@som.umaryland.edu)

Sincerely,

Hannah Palmer

*Co-President of the Medical Students For Choice Chapter at the University of Maryland School of Medicine*