



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 267 – Health – Abortion – Ultrasound and Waiting Period

Hearing Date: March 15, 2024

Position: Oppose

The Maryland Affiliate of American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) opposes *House Bill 267 – Health – Abortion – Ultrasound and Waiting Period*. The bill would require providers to use transvaginal ultrasound prior to abortion care. The bill would also impose a 24-hour waiting period for most people seeking abortion services, with a 2-hour waiting period for people living over 100 miles away.

ACNM opposes legislation that limit the autonomy of individuals to make decisions about their own health care. The waiting period serves no purpose, other than to limit access to abortion care. The transvaginal ultrasound requirement is invasive and could traumatize individuals.

We ask for an unfavorable report. We cannot further limit access to a service which 21 states have banned. Maryland should protect access to abortion care. If any additional information would be helpful, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.