HB1233_RichardKaplowitz_UNF
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TESTIMONY ON HB#1233 - POSITION: UNFAVORABLE
Public Health - Abortion

TO: Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee
FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in opposition to HB#1233, Public Health - Abortion

This bill attempts to reverse a decision made by the prior General Assembly to expand a woman's reproductive freedom choice on how to obtain an abortion from a qualified provider. It shows that Maryland, reactiing to the assaults on that freedom in much of the country, will stand up for a woman's choice to pursue an abotion here in Maryland from multiple paths.

It assumes that abortions occur, not through a choice by the woman, but because she is uninformed on a theological view of what is occuring in her body and progress of her pregnancy. It removes medical and personal moral judgment in favor of a government mandate on how her reproductive freedom is to be exercised . It assumes the woman will be disauded from choosing the abortion if only we can increase pressure on her into making another choice. It treats the woman as someone whose free will must be subject to government influence to make the choice favored, on a theological basis, by the governmen only from those persons this group of legislators feel are competent to assit the woman receiving medical caret. This bill makes it seem that abortions are not chosen by a woman exercising her free will over her own reproduction with a medical provider they trust and are comfortable with.

Maryland must remove restrictions on abortion and treat it as a choice between a woman and her doctor with or without consultation of partners, clergy, or especially the government. This bill tries to define it as a choice she cannot or will not make without government interference.

I respectfully urge this committee to return an unfavorable report on HB1233.