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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 001, Legally Protected Health Care - Reproductive, Fertility Preservation, and Contraceptive Treatment and Services (IVF and Contraception Shield Act of 2025)

1/23/2025

TO: Chair Beidle and members of the Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Ayla Hurley

Chair Beidle and members of the Senate Finance Committee, my name is Ayla Hurley, I live in Columbia, Maryland, and I am writing to urge you to support SB 001, the IVF and Contraception Shield Act of 2025.

With the recent repeal of Roe v. Wade, I and my spouse have had to make difficult decisions to protect our health. Other families have had to do the same, and at a time when our bodies are being legislated and our bodily autonomy invaded, the additional stresses of family planning are even further fraught with stress. This bill will protect our bodily autonomy and ability to build our families when and how we see fit, including treatments that help those with fertility difficulties.

Every body, every family, and every person is different, and thus has differing needs when it comes to contraception, fertility, and reproductive care. These needs should be addressed and supported by a person and their doctor without fear of potential archaic legal or moral retribution. Maryland has generally been a safe haven for reproductive rights, and I urge the committee to support SB 001 and continue to protect Marylanders from unscientific and harmful failures in understanding of reproductive and contraceptive treatments. Thank you.