



TESTIMONY FOR SB0001

Individuals Experiencing Homelessness - Address Requirements – Prohibition

Bill Sponsor: Senator Waldstreicher

Committee: Finance

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Aileen Alex, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0001 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists, and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

It should be noted, when MLC promoted the Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment (2024), on social media, we received astonishing comments suggesting that the Amendment would promote transsexual procedures.

That aside, MLC supports SB001 because it assures access to contraception, pregnancy care, and abortion services, which are crucial for our health and autonomy. However, we also see this legislation as rebutting some of the misunderstanding, or more accurately, the misinformation surrounding our newest Constitutional Amendment.

MLC members would not like to see our victory undone by those seeking to chip away at availability of reproductive health care. Without the protection of SB001, health care providers and patients face vulnerabilities to include disciplinary actions and criminal and civil proceedings.

Thankfully, Maryland's SB001 provides a clear definition of reproductive health, which includes fertility treatments, contraception, and abortion services. Additionally, it specifies what would be prohibited: formal reprimands or probation for misconduct, criminal investigations and prosecutions, and civil lawsuits related to these services.

SB0001 will not only help limit the liability of those implementing the Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment (2024), but also help Marylanders fully understand its true purpose.

The Maryland Legislative Coalition wholeheartedly supports this bill and recommends a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.