

Testimony in Support of HB108 - Public Health - Abortion (Heartbeat Bill)

February 25, 2025

To: Health and Government Operations Committee

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB108 - Public Health - Abortion (Heartbeat Bill)

Position: **Favorable**

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee:

I am submitting testimony in Support of HB108 - Public Health - Abortion (Heartbeat Bill).

This legislation prohibits induced abortions when a fetal human being's heartbeat is detectable. Detectable cardiac activity is a clear indication that a human life is developing and deserves protection.

Humanity enjoys a reciprocal relationship with the entire living world and is called to responsibility and good stewardship of this relationship. In Maryland, legislators have honored this reciprocity by enacting significant legislation for environmental protection and stewardship.

It behooves society to also think of preborn, developing lives as part of the living world and this reciprocal relationship. Respect for our natural heritage calls us to be good stewards of the human birth process as well.

Just as the seeds of food crops and garden plants go through stages of development underground before emerging, developing human life experiences myriad stages of complex development before birth. It is our duty as human beings with responsibility for the entire living world to exercise good stewardship in the process of human development leading to birth. And let us remember that every currently living person once existed at these early stages.

I urge a favorable vote on HB108.

Sincerely,

Tom Taylor
11-G Laurel Hill Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-513-9524