

Health and Government Operations Committee
House Bill 1357
UNFAVORABLE

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee;

Please give House Bill 1357 an Unfavorable report.

I had to consider whether to ask for a favorable report with amendments for this bill. One amendment would be for the state to pay for all pregnancy, delivery, post-partum, and abortion-related costs that aren't covered by insurance. Another amendment would be for the state to pay for all costs related to the deaths caused by pregnancy and delivery that aren't covered by insurance. And another would be for the information to include race and location, and for the state to pay reparations for the disparity in care and results that can be connected to the racial gap between the Black maternal and morbidity rates vs the white maternal and morbidity rates. I suggest that, during the hearing, the decent members of the committee ask the sponsor whether they would agree to those amendments, and see how fast they stumble over obvious anti-abortion intention of the bill.

As always, thank you for your consideration, and I'm sorry you have to waste your time on so many forced-birth bills each year.

Sincerely,
Debi Jasen
Pasadena, MD