

HB1357 2025

Statement of Support HB1357 Public Health – Reproductive Health Care Data - Report Deborah Brocato, Legislative Consultant Maryland Right to Life

We support HB1357

On behalf of our Board of Directors and members across the state, we strongly support the collection of compilation of annual data on the costs of birth, postpartum care, pregnancy care, and abortion in the State. Marylanders should have this information available as it pertains to the health and well-being of the women and girls in their lives. Women and girls should have all information available and accessible for research along with a healthcare consultation in order to plan the best pathway for their overall health.

"Transparency and accountability in health care" is a good thing. Women and girls will be able to do comparative analysis to determine where to find the best care for their needs and by whom. While annual data for other areas of medicine are required, Maryland does not require reporting on abortion statistics. All areas of reproductive care should have the same mandates so that transparency and accountability are equal for all organizations and individuals practicing in the field of reproductive health.

This data will help the State ensure quality medical care for women and girls and address areas of concern so improvements can be made for the protection and safety of patients.

For these reasons, Maryland Right to Life urges a favorable report on HB1357.