

HB1401 Public Health - Abortion - Informed Consent
Maryland General Assembly, March 2026
Position: Favorable

To the members of the Maryland House Health Committee:

I am writing in favor of HB1401 Public Health - Abortion - Informed Consent. As an Autistic and transgender woman who was adopted from Taiwan during infancy, I can relate to not always fitting within traditional binaries (such as white and black with regards to ethnicity/race) and immediate family structures. I am also a Democrat, Montgomery County native, and I am consistently pro life from the womb to the tomb. I support access to healthcare insurance, access to gender-affirming care, suicide prevention, I oppose the death penalty, I support vaccines, I support sound scientific peer-reviewed research and recommendations, Medicaid expansion, protection of Medicaid HCBS Waivers, I support free breakfast and lunches at public schools, and I support adoption (as a demonstration of me being consistently pro-life).

Also, as someone who was adopted, I support alternatives to killing unborn children. As someone who is autistic - diagnosed with Asperger's in middle school years - (and I work full-time in the developmental disability field), I have heard of the ableism that can begin when the child is in the womb in the case of pre-natal diagnosis of down syndrome for example. (<https://ypld.democratsforlife.org/index.php/learn/intersectionality/abortion-and-ableism>, <https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2022/04/29/autism-abortion-prenatal-testing-242895/>, <https://www.americamagazine.org/politics-society/2019/05/28/why-dont-pro-life-and-disability-rights-groups-work-together-more-often/>)

Pregnant people of a child with a developmental disability diagnosed pre-natally should be made aware of the support services and safety nets available to children and adults with developmental disabilities, such as IEP supports, special education schools, Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Waivers.

Since killing unborn children is permitted in this state, it is now important for pregnant people who do not wish to raise a child, to be aware of the alternatives before making such a decision without proper and reasonable consideration of reasonable and realistic alternatives. I ask for a favorable report.

Ms. Elizabeth "Lizzy" Graham
Democrat
Silver Spring, MD 20910. Maryland District 20.