



**Committee:** House Health Committee

**Bill:** House Bill 49 – Public Health - Abortion (Heartbeat Bill)

**Hearing Date:** March 19, 2026

**Position:** Oppose

---

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) opposes *House Bill 49 – Public Health - Abortion (Heartbeat Bill)*. This extreme legislation would ban abortion care after 6-weeks gestational age, and it would be enforced through a private right of action. This legislation mirrors the provisions of SB 8 of Texas which has created a public health crisis and has been enacted by Oklahoma and Idaho. With the overturning of Roe v Wade with the Dobbs decision, we must ensure that Maryland maintains reproductive freedom. In November 2024, the right to reproductive freedom was added to Maryland’s Constitution with the support of 76% of Maryland voters.

We ask for an unfavorable report on this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.