



**Committee:** House Health Committee

**Bill:** House Bill 1281 – Health - Abortion - Ultrasound and Wait Time

**Hearing Date:** March 19, 2026

**Position:** Oppose

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The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) strongly opposes *House Bill 1281 – Health - Abortion - Ultrasound and Wait Time*. The bill requires abortion providers to use transvaginal ultrasound before providing abortion care. The bill also imposes a 24-hour waiting period on most people seeking abortion care, with a 2-hour waiting period for people living further than 100 miles away.

ACNM supports bodily autonomy and reproductive freedom for all people. This bill would significantly limit access to abortion services for people without resources, transportation, or ability to take more time away from work or family obligations. Furthermore, the transvaginal ultrasound requirement is invasive and potentially traumatic for some patients.

We ask for an unfavorable report. The bill is unconstitutional, as Maryland’s constitution now protects reproductive freedom. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).