



Committee: House Judiciary Committee

Bill: House Bill 1131 - Public Health – Pregnancy Loss – Prohibited Actions (Pregnancy Outcome Protection Act)

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) strongly supports *House Bill 1131 – Public Health – Pregnancy Loss – Prohibited Actions (Pregnancy Outcome Protection Act)*. The legislation protects Maryland patients and providers from the dangerous trend of the criminalization of pregnancy loss. In the current landscape, there is an increase in the number of cases where individuals are targeted with criminal, civil, and administrative actions for pregnancy loss.ⁱ We support Maryland taking the affirmative step in prohibiting such actions. We have been concerned that some individuals will delay or forgo seeking prenatal care to avoid penalties.ⁱⁱ

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ <https://www.themarshallproject.org/2024/10/31/stillbirth-oklahoma-arkansas-women-investigated>

<https://www.pregnancyjusticeus.org/rise-of-pregnancy-criminalization-report/>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.law.cuny.edu/academics/clinical-programs/hrgj/projects/report-u-s-criminalization-of-abortion-and-pregnancy-outcomes/>