

HB 1131: Pregnancy Outcome Protection Act

Position - Favorable

March 3rd, 2026

To the Chair and Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee

My name is Lesley Frost and I am the Chair of National Council of Jewish Women, Maryland State Policy Advocacy Committee (NCJW MD SPA) and I am writing to express strong support for HB 1131: Pregnancy Outcome Protection Act.

Across the country, and even here in Maryland, people have been investigated, prosecuted, and punished for the outcomes of their pregnancies, including miscarriage, stillbirth, or self-managed abortion. These cases are not rare; they are part of a disturbing growing national trend that punishes people for their reproductive experiences rather than supporting their health and dignity.

This bill, HB 1131, would prohibit criminal or civil penalties based solely on pregnancy outcomes and safeguard providers who deliver compassionate, evidence-based reproductive care. This legislation is urgently needed to make Maryland's newly enshrined constitutional right to reproductive freedom a real and lived protection for every person who can become pregnant.

NCJW is the oldest Jewish grassroots organization in the USA and we follow Jewish law that says following a pregnancy loss we focus on comfort, healing, and recognizing the pain of the loss, not on assigning blame. Our NCJW Resolutions also require that we work for "Laws, policies, programs and services that protect every woman from all forms of abuse, exploitation, harassment, discrimination and violence."

It is the position of NCJW MD SPA, representing 600 advocates statewide, that the Pregnancy Outcome Protection Act fulfills our obligation to protect the well being of women, and we strongly urge this committee to vote favorably on HB 113.

Sincerely,  
Lesley Frost  
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