

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 09-0406
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: President Rawlings-Blake, Councilmembers Clarke, Middleton, D’Adamo, Cole,
Henry, Spector, Conaway, Curran, Branch, Holton
Introduced and read first time: October 5, 2009
Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Health Department

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Limited-Service Pregnancy Centers – Disclaimers**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring limited-service pregnancy centers to provide a certain disclaimer to
4 clients and potential clients; defining a certain term; imposing certain penalties; and
5 generally relating to required disclaimers by limited-service pregnancy centers.

6 BY adding

7 Article - Health

8 Section(s) 3-501 through 3-506, to be under the new subtitle designation,

9 “Subtitle 5. Limited-Service Pregnancy Centers

10 Baltimore City Revised Code

11 (Edition 2000)

12 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
13 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

14 **Baltimore City Revised Code**

15 **Article – Health**

16 **Title 3. Health Facilities**

17 **SUBTITLE 5. LIMITED-SERVICE PREGNANCY CENTERS**

18 **§ 3-501. “LIMITED-SERVICE PREGNANCY CENTER” DEFINED.**

19 IN THIS SUBTITLE, “LIMITED-SERVICE PREGNANCY CENTER” MEANS ANY PERSON:

20 (1) WHOSE PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO PROVIDE PREGNANCY-RELATED SERVICES; AND

21 (2) WHO:

22 (i) FOR A FEE OR AS A FREE SERVICE, PROVIDES INFORMATION ABOUT
23 PREGNANCY-RELATED SERVICES; BUT

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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(II) DOES NOT PROVIDE OR REFER FOR:

(A) ABORTIONS; OR

(B) NONDIRECTIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE BIRTH-CONTROL SERVICES.

§ 3-502. DISCLAIMER REQUIRED.

(A) *IN GENERAL.*

A LIMITED-SERVICE PREGNANCY CENTER MUST PROVIDE ITS CLIENTS AND POTENTIAL CLIENTS WITH A DISCLAIMER SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE EFFECT THAT THE CENTER DOES NOT PROVIDE OR MAKE REFERRAL FOR ABORTION OR BIRTH-CONTROL SERVICES.

(B) *HOW GIVEN.*

THE DISCLAIMER REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION MUST BE GIVEN THROUGH 1 OR MORE SIGNS THAT ARE:

(1) WRITTEN IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH;

(2) EASILY READABLE; AND

(3) CONSPICUOUSLY POSTED IN THE CENTER'S WAITING ROOM OR OTHER AREA WHERE INDIVIDUALS AWAIT SERVICE.

§§ 3-503 TO 3-505. {RESERVED}

§ 3-506. PENALTIES: \$500.

(A) *IN GENERAL.*

ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES A PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR OF A RULE OR REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$500 FOR EACH OFFENSE.

(B) *EACH DAY A SEPARATE OFFENSE.*

EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION CONTINUES IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior Ordinance.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day after the date it is enacted.