



# “Abortion-on-Demand”

*The Dangers of a State Constitutional Right to “Reproductive Freedom”*

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A state Abortion Amendment could soon make it a crime to be “Pro-Life” in Maryland. The Supreme Court finally acknowledged that there is NO CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO ABORTION. But now abortion activists in the state legislature are desperately trying to create one by amending the Constitution of Maryland. A Maryland abortion amendment would coerce taxpayers into funding abortion-on-demand, deregulate experimentation and the destruction of human embryos, invalidate all existing health and safety statutes and regulations regarding abortion, target pro-life organizations and healthcare providers for litigation and prosecution, and bar any future attempts to pass lifesaving legislation such as partial birth abortion bans or dismemberment bans. If this radical abortion bill is enacted by three-fifths of state lawmakers, it will become a ballot question in 2024.

## Important Reasons to Oppose an Abortion Amendment

- **A State abortion amendment would infringe on fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.** The Constitution affirms that no one can “be deprived of life, liberty or property” and deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence’s proclamation that “all” are “endowed by their Creator” with the unalienable right to life. The Constitution of Maryland defers to the Constitution of the United States as controlling law and state lawmakers have sworn an oath to defend the Constitution. Any state measure to create a state Constitutional abortion right, infringes on the first and most fundamental right to life. Several other constitutional rights are at stake, including freedom of speech, freedom of assembly, freedom to petition the government to redress grievances, free exercise of religion, Due Process and Equal Protection.
- **An abortion amendment could make it a crime to be “Pro-Life”.** An amendment would authorize a legal cause of action for discrimination against any pro-life organization, church, official, volunteer or healthcare provider who opposes abortion. Criminal charges including for “hate crimes” could follow for “denying abortion services” or refusing to participate in abortion. The amendment would incite increasing acts of violence and litigation against pro-life speech and pregnancy centers.
- **An abortion amendment would deprive women real choice.** Maryland will become a state-sponsor of abortion and public policies will coerce women into abortion by denying public funding for lifesaving alternatives to abortion, including quality prenatal care services, parenting education, affordable adoption programs, foster care reform and Safe Haven programs. 81% prefer policies to protect both the mother and the child. (Marist Poll 2022)
- **An abortion amendment would increase the risk of injury and death for women and girls in Maryland.** An amendment would invalidate existing abortion regulations, reducing the standard of medical care and putting women at greater risk. It would cause the repeal of common sense, protective laws including federal partial-birth abortion bans; infanticide bans; human cloning bans; sex trafficking reporting requirements; bans on selective abortion based on race, gender or disability; parental notification; informed consent; wrongful death laws that protect unborn children; religious freedom and rights of conscience laws that protect healthcare workers and employers; clinic safety regulations; and public funding restrictions. The vast majority (71%) of Americans support reasonable restrictions on abortion, especially in the third trimester (6-9 months). (Marist 2022)
- **An abortion amendment would force taxpayers to fully fund abortion on demand and embryonic human exploitation.** The Maryland *Freedom of Choice Act* (1991) is one of the most extreme abortion laws in the nation. It established legal loopholes abortion for abortionists to commit elective abortions through birth with taxpayer funding, even on minors. Last year the majority party repealed the physician-only requirement and authorized any “certified provider” to commit abortions. Maryland is one of only 4 states that compel taxpayers to fund abortion. We pay millions in state Medicaid to reimburse abortionists and millions more to subsidize the abortion industry and develop their abortion workforce. 54% of voters, whether pro-life or pro-choice, oppose use of our tax dollars to fund abortion. (Marist Poll 2022)
- **An abortion amendment would silence the voices of everyday Marylanders who want to engage in a meaningful public discussion and debate over the availability, safety, and even desirability of abortion.** By enacting this bill, state lawmakers will relinquish their legislative authority to the courts, denying representation to their pro-life constituents and evading accountability to voters.
- **The bill also has implications for gender “reassignment” and genital mutilation.**