



**Opposition Statement HB1349
Prenatal and Infant Care Grant Fund**
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On behalf of our chapters and members across the state of Maryland, we applaud any efforts of the state to support pregnant women in healthy birth outcomes. However, we must urge you to reject the bill *as written* as it will entrust those who profit from the sale of abortions with the care of pregnant women and maternal outcomes. The state continues to subsidize the abortion industry, increasing the number of abortions and decreasing the number of adoption referrals. We ask that you exclude abortion providers from eligibility for any public funding for prenatal or “well baby” care and prioritize public funding for prenatal programs and providers that protect the lives of both mothers and preborn children.

PRIORITIZE PRENATAL CARE – 58% of people in a January 2021 Marist poll said they oppose public funding for abortion. 80% said they prefer policies that support the lives of both mothers and children. Women have many more options for legitimate prenatal care and well woman care. There are 14 federally qualifying health centers for each Planned Parenthood in Maryland. The state should prioritize funding for prenatal programs that have proven successful birth outcomes, including the many pro-life medical pregnancy centers across the state.

MORE FUNDING = LESS CARE This bill will increase referrals to Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers but Planned Parenthood is not a legitimate service provider for prenatal care. **Planned Parenthood commits 41 abortions for every one prenatal care service and 133 abortions for every adoption referral. Planned Parenthood provides no pediatric care.** In their [Annual Report](#) released in January 2021, Planned Parenthood reports that the number of abortions they committed increased nearly 3% in 2019-2020 from the previous year for a record high total of 354,871 abortions. That’s over 972 babies killed annually- or one every 89 seconds. **In stark contrast, they report that their prenatal care and adoption referrals both dropped double digits from the previous year.** Despite its claims that its primary focus is to provide health care for women, Planned Parenthood’s business model is built on profiting from abortions and the exploitation of women and young girls, especially among minority communities and vulnerable populations. Planned Parenthood offers “prenatal” services as a means to sell abortion to vulnerable women and girls facing unplanned pregnancies ([LEARN MORE](#)).

For these reasons we respectfully urge you to amend HB1349 to preserve the good purposes of this bill by excluding abortion providers from eligibility to receive public prenatal care funds or issue an unfavorable report. Thank you.