



Committee: House Health and Governmental Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 1139 – Public Funds on Expenditures for Abortion

Hearing: March 11, 2022

Position: Oppose

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) opposes *House Bill 1139 – Public Funds on Expenditures for Abortion*. This extreme legislation would ban the use of public funding for the provision of abortion care, clinical education related to abortion care, or research using fetal tissue. The bill would also prohibit the State from contracting with any practitioner or health care facility that provides abortion care. The Maryland Affiliate of ACNM is opposed to legislation designed to interfere with an individual’s autonomy in making reproductive health decisions. In 2019 after state legislatures introduced a record-breaking number of anti-reproductive health measures, ACNM – National issued a statement that “reaffirms its commitment to individual patient autonomy across the spectrum of reproductive health, including abortion.”ⁱ Therefore, we oppose this legislation and ask for an unfavorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

ⁱ<https://www.midwife.org/acnm/files/cclibraryfiles/filename/000000007327/ACNM%20Opposition%20Statement%20to%20Threats%20to%20Abortion%20Care%20March%202019.pdf>