



Opposition Statement HB1160

Maryland Pathway to Nursing Program and Advisory Committee - Established
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Maryland Right to Life

We Oppose HB1160

On behalf of our 200,000 followers across the state, we respectfully object to HB1160. While providing support for certified nursing assistants and licensed practical nurses to become registered nurses is a positive in general, we oppose the program being used to recruit participants into the abortion industry workforce. We oppose any funds for this bill being used to fund the training of participants for the abortion industry. We oppose this committee being used for the purpose of promoting the abortion industry through this program. Maryland Right to Life strongly recommends an amendment added with language that would exclude abortion funding and exclude recruitment of participants for the abortion workforce.

In addition to the taxpayer funding of participants for the abortion industry, Maryland Right to Life opposes the further erosion of medical care for the women and girls of Maryland. Surgical and medical abortions carry a risk of injury up to and including death. Surgical abortions are invasive and the woman or girl risks injuries including a punctured uterus, incomplete abortion, lacerations to the vagina and cervix, sepsis, and death. The risks for a woman or girl taking the abortion pill include hemorrhage, sepsis, incomplete abortion, menstrual abnormalities and death. The women and girls of Maryland deserve the care of trained, licensed physicians. The Abortion Care Access Act of 2022 removed the physician requirement for women and girls seeking abortion. This bill further reduces the quality of medical care that women and girls receive in Maryland.

Maryland is one of only 4 states that forces taxpayer funding of abortion. Maryland taxpayers should not be forced to subsidize the recruitment and training of workers for the abortion industry, especially workers that put the health of women and girls in jeopardy. The state of Maryland must not continue to sponsor the abortion industry in its taxpayer funded programs.

Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. The 2023 Marist poll shows that 60% of Americans, pro-life and pro-choice, oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. 81% of Americans favor public funds being prioritized for health and family planning services that save the lives of mothers and their children including programs for improving maternal health and birth and delivery outcomes, well baby care and parenting classes.

For these reasons, we ask for an unfavorable report on **HB1160**.