

Legislative Agenda 2020

Maryland General Assembly

For a complete list of bills being tracked this session, please visit our website:
<https://prochoicemd.org/laws-policy/md-general-assembly/#bills>



Lead advocates via the coalition, Reproductive Justice Inside:

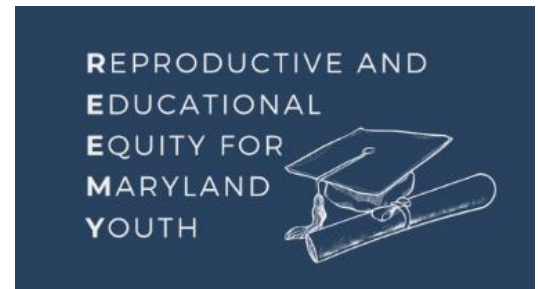


SB0255/HB0524 Correctional Services - Pregnant Incarcerated Individuals - Continuity of Care - requires correctional systems to offer pregnant individuals timely healthcare assessments to identify factors that may contribute to high risk pregnancies - such as mental health and substance use - and provide case management to coordinate continued healthcare and supports upon release in order to promote positive perinatal and infant health. RJI is also in support of efforts to create a pre-release unit for female prisoners so that they will have the same transitional services as male inmates currently do (the men currently have nine), including access sexual and reproductive healthcare and parenting supports. RJI is also supporting: HB0608/SB0682 Correctional Services – Prerelease Unit for Women – Requirement to Operate, HB0801/SB0684 Correctional Services – Prerelease

Unit for Women – Facilities and Services (Gender-Responsive Prerelease Act), HB0828/SB0683 - Corrections – Women’s Prerelease Unit – Requirements (Women’s Prerelease Equity Act), and HB1476 Independent Oversight and Review Board for Health Care of Inmates in State Correctional Facilities – Establishment.

Lead advocates via the alliance, Reproductive & Educational Equity for Maryland Youth:

SB0791/HB1298 County Boards of Education – Pregnant and Parenting Students – Policies and Reports - ensures investments recommended by the Kirwan Commission for “at-promise” youth to include pregnant, expectant, and parenting students (PEPS). Require appropriate school personnel to help new parenting students with coordination of childcare, transportation, and lactation supports, allow break time for parenting students to address childcare and lactation needs, ensure training opportunities for existing school staff to coordinate these supports, and require data collection of educational outcomes of PEPS by school district. REEMY is also supporting: HB1022/SB0830 Education – Alternative Schools – Reporting Requirements, HB1536 Primary and Secondary Education – Title IX – Policies and Procedures (Hear Our Voices Act of 2020), SB0572/HB0522 Education – Home and Hospital Teaching Program for Students – Report, and SB1000/HB1300 Blueprint for Maryland’s Future – Implementation.



Lead advocates via the group, Menstrual Equity Alliance for Maryland Students



HB0208 Menstrual Equity in Public Schools – requires public elementary and secondary schools to provide free menstrual hygiene products in at least two student restrooms per building with size-appropriate pads and tampons by October 2020 to increase school attendance and extracurricular participation, and in all restrooms by August, 2024. Allies are also supporting: HB1475/SB0992

School Buildings - Drinking Water Outlets - Elevated Level of Lead (Safe School Drinking Water Act).

Supporting advocates in coalition and with allies:

SB0539/HB0839 Labor and Employment – Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program - Establishment, led by the Maryland Family Network – creates a statewide insurance program for employees to take paid family or medical leave after a specified time period of contributions into the fund. The several weeks paid leave will allow adequate care for children newly added to families, self-care to address post-pregnancy needs, care for children with special needs and older adults, and time for military personnel and their families before deployment. Allies are also supporting: SB0225/HB0523 State Personnel - Employee Accommodations – Pregnancy and Childbirth and SB0217/HB0123 Labor and Employment – Wage History and Wage Range



HB1067/SB0914 Douglas – Doula Technical Assistance Advisory Group and Certification, led by the Reproductive Health Equity Alliance of Maryland - establishes a voluntary certification for doulas to provide patient advocacy services throughout one's pregnancy and postpartum, and create a process for insurance and Medicaid reimbursement so that more pregnant individuals will be able to access their services and improve perinatal and infant health outcomes - especially in low-income, underserved communities of color, and undocumented populations. RHEAM is also supporting: HB0286 - Public Health – Maternal Mortality Review Program – Stakeholders, and HB0837 - Public Health – Maternal Mortality and Morbidity – Implicit Bias Training and Study.

HB0242/SB0206 Criminal Procedure – Motion to Vacate Judgment – Human Trafficking (True Freedom Act of 2020), led by the Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force – creates an expungement for victims of human trafficking for crimes committed while under the control and oppression of traffickers, in addition to prostitution, such as loitering, indecent exposure, and drug possession. MHTTF is also supporting: HB0246/SB0231 Sexual Solicitation of a Minor – Solicitation Through Parent, Guardian, or Custodian – Prohibition and Penalties, HB0206/SB0207 Unaccompanied Minors in Need of Shelter and Supportive Services, HB0575 - Education – Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program – Human and Sex Trafficking, HB0382 - Business Regulation – Innkeepers – Records and Human Trafficking Awareness Training, and HB0459 - Criminal Law – Victims of Human Trafficking – Affirmative Defense



Anti-abortion and personhood legislation we are seeking to defeat this session:

- SB0357 - Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act
- HB0734 - Human Fetal Tissue – Prohibition
- HB0793 - Public Health - Unborn Child Protection from Dismemberment Abortion Act
- HB1162 - Health - Abortions - Reporting Requirements
- HB1179 - Public Health - Unborn Human Beings and Infants (Humane Disposition of Human Remains Act)
- HB1227 - Abortion - Ultrasound Requirement
- HB1299 - Public Health - Abortions - Modifications
- HB1321 – Health - Abortion - Ultrasound and Waiting Period
- HB1412 - Public Health - Abortions – Methods
- HB1583 - Public Health - Abortions - Prenatal Diagnosis of Down Syndrome (Down Syndrome Dignity Act)
- HB1584 - Public Health - Family Planning Services - Order of Priority of Funding