Women's Law Center of Maryland

Ending Women's History Month with a Win!

Dear Jessica,

Exciting news! Maryland has passed a revolutionary state constitutional amendment that guarantees reproductive freedom as an inherent right for every person! *The Declaration of Rights – Right to Reproductive Freedom* (<u>HB705/SB798</u>) recognizes that a central component of an individual's rights to liberty and equality includes the fundamental right to reproductive liberty. This is a momentous victory for reproductive justice and autonomy, marking a critical milestone in the ongoing fight for bodily autonomy and gender equality.



As of today, March 31st, 2023, The *Declaration of Rights- Right to Reproductive Freedom* has fully passed both chambers of the Maryland House and Senate and does not need to go to the governor for signature, though Governor Moore has indicated full support nonetheless. It will be on the ballot in 2024, allowing Maryland voters to affirm their commitment to reproductive freedom and justice.

The Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health decision has made it clear that our reproductive rights are under threat, not just from the U.S. Supreme Court, but from other states like Texas and Missouri. However, in Maryland, we will not be intimidated. We will not be deterred. *We will protect the reproductive liberties of every single person in our state.* All that's left is your vote!

TD /UD Delec	Reading (HB) Calendar No pate A. Jones et al tight to Reproductive Freed	(EN)
On third reading		
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YBEIDLE	Y HETTLEMAN	NSALLING
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YBROOKS	Y JAMES	Y SMITH
NCAROZZA	NJENNINGS	Y SYDNOR
YCARTER	YKAGAN	Y WALDSTREICHER
NCORDERMAN	Y KELLY	Y WASHINGTON, A.
YELFRETH	Y KING	Y WASHINGTON, M.
YELLIS	Y KLAUSMEIER	YWATSON
Y FELDMAN	YKRAMER	NWEST
NFOLDEN	Y LAM	Y ZUCKER
N GALLION	Y LEWIS YOUNG	
YGILE	MAUTZ	
Y GRIFFITH	Y MCCRAY	
Y GUZZONE	NMCKAY	

We believe that everyone deserves access to safe, affordable, and comprehensive reproductive healthcare without fear of



stigma, shame, or punishment. This constitutional amendment helps to protect that right for generations to come. It is a powerful message that we will not tolerate any attempts to deny people their reproductive rights, and we will continue to fight for the right to make our own choices about our bodies, lives, and futures. Thank you for standing with us in this critical struggle for reproductive justice. Let us continue to build on this historic victory and create a world where reproductive freedom is a reality for all.



Onward together,

MicheleSini

P.S. As always, if you appreciate the work we do, whether in the General Assembly or through our <u>direct legal services</u> across the State, <u>give here</u>! And if this email was forwarded to you by a friend, make sure to sign up for our legislative alerts <u>here</u>!

P.P.S. Save the Date for the WLC's <u>Annual Celebration and Awards Ceremony</u> on May 3rd at 6pm at Citron! Join us in presenting the Rosalyn B. Bell Award to Marla Zide, Esq.; the Dorothy Beatty Memorial Award to Robyn Elliott; and the Access to Justice Award to Natasha M. Dartigue, Esq. and Debbie Feinstein, Esq. For more information or to buy tickets, click <u>HERE</u>.

Have an event you'd like to share with us? Send us an email!

About The Women's Law Center of Maryland: The vision of the Women's Law Center of Maryland is a legal system that provides justice and fairness for women. The Women's Law Center's mission is to ensure the physical safety, economic security, and autonomy of women throughout the State. We work towards this goal by providing direct legal representation, information and referral services, and legislative advocacy.

Our efforts to promote justice, fairness, and equality for women are only possible because of friends like you.

Give Today

The Women's Law Center of Maryland, Inc. is a charitable organization designated as tax-exempt under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). A copy of our financial statement is available upon request. Documents and information submitted under the State of Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State of Maryland, Annapolis, MD 21401 for the cost of copying and postage.



Women's Law Center | 305 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 201, Towson, MD 21204

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