

Celebrating 50 Years of Advancing Justice

Dear Jessica,

When the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*, it took the unprecedented step of eliminating the right of an individual to make their own decision about their own pregnancy. This decision was not a surprise. It was part of a calculated long-game that took place over decades, designed to stripped us of our bodily autonomy. Here in Maryland, we have to fight back against more than a dozen anti-abortion bills every year. And while we are proud of our legislature for holding off those attacks, we know we must do more to protect these fundamental rights.

Yesterday the House Government and Operations Committee heard testimony on a bill sponsored by House Speaker Adrienne Jones that would pave the way for a Constitutional Amendment that declares **Reproductive Freedom is a Fundamental Right**. This is the strongest protection we can create under the law. That bill hearing had some very loud opposition to the legislation and we need to make sure our voices rise above that noise.

Send an email TODAY to the members of HGO and tell them that you unequivocally support HB705 Declaration of Rights - Right to Reproductive Freedom. (The email link below has been updated).

CONTACT THE COMMITTEE HERE

The Constitutional Amendment provides the highest possible level of protection of reproductive freedom in Maryland. The bill provides for the rights of individuals to make and effectuate their own decisions about abortion, birth control and continuing a pregnancy. This legislation is singularly the most important action we can take to protect the reproductive freedom of the generations behind us.

Onward together,

Michelle Sivi

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 Annual Celebration and Awards Ceremony 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 **HERE**.

P.P.P.S. Save the date for these upcoming events from our partners and friends!

 Hosted by the Women Legislators of Maryland, Executive Alliance, Planned Parenthood of Maryland, and Pro Choice Maryland, the 2023 Gender Justice Rally will be held March 6th at 6pm at Lawyer's Mall in Annapolis. Register to attend <u>HERE</u>!



Join Leadership Baltimore County for a <u>Rebalance</u>, <u>Rediscover</u>, <u>Reinvent</u> event on how leaders support women at home, and work, and in the community on Thursday, March 16th 8:30-10:30am in Owings Mills.



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









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