



LIFE

Report

SPRING EDITION 2025



Maryland Right to Life (MDRTL) has been the leading voice on pro-life policy in Maryland for more than 50 years. With God's grace and the help of our supporters and volunteers throughout the state, MDRTL identified and provided testimony against 86 legislative threats to life, successfully defeated 45 bills, and sent over 25,000 constituent letters supporting the right to life during the 2025 state legislative session.

Thank you for your amazing support!

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY – On April 7, 2025 the 447th session of the Maryland General Assembly came to a close. MDRTL reviewed and analyzed 2,605 pieces of legislation and 12 resolutions during the ninety-day session. MDRTL successfully defeated 45 bills that threatened life and supported 9 bills that promoted the dignity of human life. Despite a very contentious legislative climate, MDRTL earned notable victories.

The most significant win was our collective defeat of the Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) bill for the eighth time in Maryland. PAS proponents attempted to expand euthanasia from those diagnosed with terminal illness to those living with mental illness and other treatable disorders. To thwart those efforts, MDRTL expanded our efforts to engage populations most at risk including veterans. Working with our coalition partners and volunteers across the state, we actively lobbied lawmakers resulting in the cancellation of the Senate hearing. Additionally, MDRTL supporters sent an amazing 8,424 letters to elected officials through MDRTL's Voter Voice campaigns, ensuring the bill's demise.

MDRTL led the fight to defend the religious freedom and conscience rights of medical providers. By mobilizing assistance from national pro-life organizations, we succeeded in defeating two bills that would have forced private and faith-based hospitals to commit abortions or face severe penalties.

Right – MDRTL Executive Director Laura Bogley with pro-life lawmaker Delegate April Rose (Carroll County) at Md March for Life.



The *Emergency Pregnancy-Related Medical Conditions* bill would have imposed the Biden Administration's interpretation of the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA), which incorrectly equates elective abortions with pregnancy complications such as ectopic pregnancy or miscarriage. These bills would have forced many obstetricians out of business and put pregnant women and children at great risk of harm in our state.

MDRTL remained determined to pursue pro-life legislation this session despite the ratification of the so-called Reproductive Freedom Amendment (RFA) to the Maryland Constitution. In the November 2024 election, Ballot Question 1 fabricated a state right to abortion in violation of the unalienable right to life given by God, proclaimed by the United States Declaration of Rights and echoed throughout the Constitution of the United States. MDRTL encouraged state legislators to introduce pro-life legislation, advising them that the RFA specifies that the state may restrict this new "right" if it has a compelling state interest.

As a result of MDRTL's efforts, we successfully secured legislative sponsors for the introduction of critical pro-life bills, including the *Women's Freedom from Coercion Act* (Senator Marybeth Carozza & Delegate April Miller) to protect women and children from forced ingestion of abortion drugs and the *Reproductive Health Care Data – Report bill* (Senator Marybeth Carozza & Delegate Teresa Reilly) to require the state to provide a public report of abortion funding data. Unfortunately, majority leaders continued to discriminate against pro-life speech and legislation, and denied votes on all pro-life bills. The only potential remedy for this systemic discrimination against pro-life speech and organizations is litigation.

Governor Moore and the legislative majority again put politics before patients. Despite the reported \$3 billion state budget deficit, they increased elective abortion funding by millions of dollars. MDRTL strongly opposed the bill that made Maryland the first state in the nation to highjack insurance premiums mandated by the Affordable Care Act to establish a state abortion fund to target poor and uninsured women and babies, many of whom will be trafficked into Maryland for late-term abortions. While pro-life lawmakers made a strong effort this session to resist bills that expanded taxpayer funding for abortion, they could not overcome the pro-abortion majority. MDRTL is grateful to the pro-life leaders who bravely fought for life as well as to the pro-life partners who joined us in testifying.



MDRTL made a strong finish to the legislative session as a Gold Sponsor of the 2025 Maryland March for Life. Marching with hundreds of pro-life citizens from across our state, we proudly proclaimed the dignity of human life at all stages and renewed our commitment to end the atrocities of abortion and euthanasia in Maryland.

Above: MDRTL Executive Director Laura Bogley and lobbyist Deborah Brocato, RN thank bill sponsor and witnesses following pro-life bill hearings.

Left: MDRTL Directors provided educational materials to marchers before the Maryland March for Life.

MDRTL 2025 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



PRO-LIFE WIN! Assisted Suicide – DEFEATED. SB926/HB1328 – *End of Life Option Act* – sponsored by Senator Will Smith (D-Montgomery) and Delegate Terri Hill (D-Howard). MDRTL utilized strategic partnerships to successfully defeat passage of the Assisted Suicide/Euthanasia bill for the 8th time in last 10 years. MDRTL recruited medical experts to provide opposition testimony resulting in the cancellation of the Senate hearing. We are especially grateful to our partner The Dignity Mandate for hosting the Anti-PAS Lobby Night. MDRTL will continue to lead efforts to defend the medically vulnerable, elderly, underinsured and those living with disabilities against the threat of euthanasia.

PRO-LIFE WIN! State EMTALA – DEFEATED. SB 447 – *Hospitals-Emergency Medical Conditions-Procedures* – sponsored by Senator Clarence Lam (D- Anne Arundel, Baltimore & Howard). This law attempted to apply the federal Emergency Medical Treatment & Labor Act (EMTALA) to elective abortion procedures. EMTALA was enacted by Congress in 1986 to ensure public access to emergency services regardless of ability to pay. The bill which was stalled in the House, would have required hospital emergency room providers to commit or complete elective abortions, without regard for religious conscience objections. [See SENATE VOTES](#)

PRO-LIFE WIN! Hospital ER Providers – PROTECTED. SB681/HB926 *Health Care Malpractice Claims – Health Care Provider – Definition* – This bill was sponsored by Senator Charles (D- Prince George's). If passed, this bill would have threatened conscience protections for hospitals and hospital personnel. The bill would have coerced hospitals, under threat of litigation, to provide abortions and hire abortion workers. MDRTL was the only organization to provide testimony to protect conscience protections. The bills were not passed out of committees.

PRO-LIFE WIN! Contraceptives for Kindergarteners – DEFEATED. HB380 – *Criminal Law – Prohibition on Sale of Contraceptives by Vending Machine in School – Repeal* – sponsored by former director of NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland, Delegate Nicole Williams (D-Prince George's). MDRTL was the only organization to present opposition testimony against this bill. This bill, supported by Planned Parenthood, would have recklessly repealed the criminal prohibition on selling contraception and abortion-inducing drugs in elementary school vending machines. If enacted, the bill would force schools to become part of the abortion drug manufacturer distribution chain and increase the risk of child sexual abuse. This bill was passed by House democrats, but rejected by the Senate.

[HOUSE VOTES](#)

[SENATE VOTES](#)

PRO-LIFE LOSS. Abortion Grant Program – ENACTED. SB848/HB930 — Public Health Abortion Grant Program – Establishment – sponsored by Senator Guy Guzzone (D- Howard County) and Delegate Lesley Lopez (D-Montgomery County). This new law takes \$25 million in insurance premiums, mandated by the Affordable Care Act and intended to cover the cost of abortions for enrolled individuals, to create a new state abortion grant program. The program will subsidize the abortion industry in the form of grants to target poor women and abort children whose mothers are not enrolled or insured, increasing the incidence of interstate abortion trafficking.

[SENATE VOTES](#)

[HOUSE VOTES](#)

PRO-LIFE LOSS. Sex Education Framework– ENACTED. HB161 – County Boards of Education – Curriculum Guides and Courses of Study – Discrepancies – sponsored by Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary (D-Howard). MDRTL has been one of the few organizations to oppose this bill year over year. This year, the House passed the bill without allowing public testimony. The new law empowers the Maryland State Board of Education to usurp the authority of county school boards, undermines parental rights to make medical decisions for their children and further subjects minor school children to radical sexuality indoctrination and abortion coercion at the hands of those who stand to gain financially from unplanned pregnancies.

[SENATE VOTES](#)

[HOUSE VOTES](#)

PRO-LIFE LOSS. Abortion on Campus – ENACTED. SB511/HB840 – Pregnant and Parenting Student Support Act – sponsored by Senator Shaneka Henson (D-Prince George’s County) and Delegate Aletheia McCaskill (D-Baltimore). This law will expand abortion coordination and coercion on college campuses by codifying federal Title IX. Regulations attached since 1975 to Title IX of the federal Higher Education Act of 1965, were influenced by the since rejected Roe v. Wade decision, and require that any educational institution that receives federal funds must provide equal accommodation for pregnancy AND termination of pregnancy by abortion. The State of Maryland has repeatedly refused to apply Title IX neutrally, instead using it to embed the abortion industry on college campuses.

[SENATE VOTES](#)

[HOUSE VOTES](#)

Contributing editors: Laura Bogley, JD, Executive & Legislative Director, Maryland Right to Life, Inc. and Deborah Brocato, RN, Independent Medical Expert and Lobbyist.



LEFT- MDRTL Lobbyist Deborah Brocato, RN with pro-life expert witnesses following collaborated hearing testimony in Maryland Senate.

For more information about 2025 legislation supported or opposed by MDRTL visit www.mdrtl.org/legislation/2025-legislation-bill-tracker/ or scan this QR Code with your mobile device...

