

April 8, 2022

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones
Speaker of the House of Delegates
H-101 State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Speaker Jones:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have vetoed House Bill 937 – *Abortion Care Access Act*.

As governor, I have upheld my commitment to take no action that would affect Maryland law where it concerns reproductive rights. With this action, I am reaffirming that commitment.

House Bill 937 endangers the health and lives of women by allowing non-physicians to perform abortions. The bill risks lowering the high standard of reproductive health care services received by women in Maryland. These procedures are complex and can, and often do, result in significant medical complications that require the attention of a licensed physician. Licensed physicians have a level of education and training not received by other types of healthcare professionals. Unlike nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, physician assistants, and licensed certified midwives, physicians are uniquely qualified to perform these procedures and resolve any medical complications should they arise.

The only impact that this bill would have on women's reproductive rights would be to set back standards for women's health care and safety. For these reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 937 – *Abortion Care Access Act*.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor