



Moderator of the Curia

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington

Dear Brother in Christ,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

Latest News on Abortion Bills in the Maryland General Assembly

We wanted to continue to keep you apprised of the developments involving two key abortion bills that are advancing in the Maryland legislature:

- The proposed ballot measure [HB1171](#) would amend the Maryland Constitution to prohibit laws that protect life in the womb and would restrict laws to protect women's safety at abortion facilities; and
- The Abortion Care Access Act, [HB937/SB890](#), would allow abortions to be performed by non-physicians and require insurance coverage of abortions, among other things.

Both of these bills are expected to pass the House of Delegates this week and be taken up by the Senate. Meanwhile, next week the General Assembly will take up consideration of another bill: the Pregnant Person's Freedom Act, ([HB626/SB669](#)), which would permit the failure to provide lifesaving care to newborns, as well as dangerous self-abortions.

The Maryland Catholic Conference (MCC) has advised that it is imperative for the faithful to reach out to their elected officials--most importantly, their state senators--to voice their opposition to these measures.

We are grateful that so many of our pastors have shared our earlier advocacy alerts and already encouraged the faithful to get involved. MCC has reported that thousands of messages have already been sent to legislators in just the past few weeks. We ask that you continue to share this important information with the faithful and encourage your communities to contact their senators as the coming weeks will prove to be critical in our campaign to oppose the further expansion of legalized abortion in Maryland.

Specifically, MCC urgently asks that people go to its website for more information and resources at <https://www.mdcatholic.org/parish-respectlifeadvocacy>, and that parishes promote this action alert petition in opposition to the Abortion

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Amendment: https://oneclickpolitics.global.ssl.fastly.net/messages/edit?promo_id=15701.

Updated templates for messages are also being added to the Archdiocese's Flocknote library. Pastors are again encouraged to share updates with their parish communities through social media, email, and Flocknote so that they may contact their senators to voice opposition now. The faithful can find contact information for their specific senators [here](#) or by entering their home address here: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb site/Members/District>.

Please continue to monitor and share updates on these bills. If you have any questions or would like additional resources, please contact Kathryn Yanik, Director of Life Issues, at yanikk@adw.org 301-853-5318, or Andrew Rivas, Manager of Public Policy, at rivasa@adw.org, 202-683-1721.

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see adw.org/coronavirus for information related to the coronavirus, adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/ for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and cathstan.org and elpreg.org for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office and the Pastoral Center, please let us know.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am
Sincerely in Christ,
Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia