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DEMOCRAT FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL

Plan to Defend and Expand Reproductive Rights

Executive Summary

We live in a moment of profound uncertainty regarding the future of reproductive rights. A flood of state laws across the country have created a functional barrier to abortion. Since 2021, over 600 abortion restrictions have been introduced in state legislatures and 90 have been enacted, including “bounty” style laws, in the model of Mississippi’s or Texas’ S.B.8. The United States Supreme Court, with its three Trump appointees, is currently considering arguments in two cases to overturn *Roe v. Wade* after 49 years.

This is a direct attack on Marylanders’ human rights. As Maryland’s Attorney General, I will ensure our laws provide access to affordable contraception and protect a person’s right to choose.

As Attorney General, I will:

- **File Lawsuits and Amicus Briefs to Defend the Right to Reproductive Healthcare**
- **Advocate for the Adoption of a State Constitutional Amendment to Guarantee Abortion Rights**
- **Expand Reproductive Rights Access**
- **Ensure Reproductive Healthcare as an Important Tool to Help End Intimate Partner Violence in Maryland**
- **Protect Title X Funding**
- **Advocate for Paid Family Leave**

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This is a direct attack on Marylanders’ human rights. I know that access to reproductive healthcare can shape millions of lives, as it shaped mine. Access to reproductive health care gave me the opportunity to start a family when I wanted to and allowed me to pursue my dreams. I am ready to use my 30 years of legal experience to defend the reproductive rights of every Marylander. As Maryland’s Attorney General, I will ensure our laws provide access to affordable contraception and protect a person’s right to choose.

Reproductive health needs to be driven by safety and medical expertise, not by scarcity or political moralizing. We know that people across the country will be looking to other states when their own state governments try to dictate their medical choices. Maryland needs to stand for the principle that reproductive healthcare is essential health care and ensure the availability of those services for any person who needs it.

As Attorney General, I will:

File Lawsuits and Amicus Briefs to Defend the Right to Reproductive Healthcare

I will use the full legal power of the Attorney General’s Office to file lawsuits to challenge laws that violate reproductive rights.

Advocate for the Adoption of a State Constitutional Amendment to Guarantee Abortion Rights

I support efforts by Speaker Adrienne Jones to amend the Maryland State Constitution to include protections for abortion rights. I applaud the Speaker’s introduction of HB1171 and as Attorney General, I will continue to advocate for a constitutional amendment to protect the reproductive rights of Marylanders.

Expand Reproductive Rights Access

Regardless of whether the Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*, Maryland needs greater access to reproductive services. Right now, anti-abortion “pregnancy crisis centers” outnumber Maryland abortion clinics 2:1. Access to healthcare means ensuring affordability and geographical availability. As Attorney General, I will support legislation like SB890/HB937, to allow nurse practitioners and physician assistants to perform abortion services and ensure the equitable expansion of abortion access and reproductive healthcare to all Marylanders. Additionally, I will fiercely advocate for state funding to provide services, transportation, and accommodations for individuals seeking an abortion if they live in a state where they would no longer be able to access reproductive healthcare should the Supreme Court overturn *Roe*.

Ensure Reproductive Healthcare as an Important Tool to Help End Intimate Partner Violence in Maryland

Intimate partner violence and reproductive rights are often deeply intertwined. Reproductive rights are an important part of a policy agenda to allow victims to escape abusers and break the cycle of violence. Our campaign has already released a plan to end domestic abuse in Maryland, and it can be found at katieformd.com/issues.

Protect Title X Funding

Title X a federal grant program that funds family planning services, access to contraception and women's health services, including breast exam and screenings for cervical cancer. I will lobby the federal government to maintain these programs.

Advocate for Paid Family Leave

Now is the time for Maryland to finally adopt paid family and medical leave. That's why I support the Time to Care Act. This bill would give certain part and full-time workers 12 weeks of paid leave following childbirth or to take care of themselves or a family member experiencing serious health issues. Healthcare is a human right, and I will work tirelessly as Attorney General to support this right for every Marylander.