

## 2018 Charles County Right to Life Primary Election Survey

### (1) PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

There is now compelling scientific evidence that at least by 20 weeks post fertilization, the unborn child is capable of experiencing pain when subjected to abortion. On this basis, in 2010, Nebraska enacted the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act to prohibit abortions after that point (with narrow exceptions), and the number of states which have passed bills now totals 16. On October 3, 2017, similar national legislation (H.R. 36) was approved by the U.S. House of Representatives. A companion bill also was introduced in the U.S. Senate (S. 1922).

**Would you vote for the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, to protect from abortion unborn children at the point in their development that evidence currently suggests an unborn child has the capacity to feel pain?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

### (2) DISMEMBERMENT ABORTION BAN ACT

The Dismemberment Abortion Ban Act (H.R. 1192) has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Chris Smith (R-N.J.). The model wording has been passed by 9 states and signed into law. The bill defines "dismemberment abortion" as "knowingly dismembering a living unborn child and extracting the child one piece at a time from the uterus through the use of clamps, grasping forceps, tongs, scissors or similar instruments that, through the convergence of two rigid levers, slice, crush or grasp a portion of the unborn child's body in order to cut or rip it off . . ." This definition largely overlaps with what those in the abortion trade currently refer to as "dilation and evacuation" or "dilation and extraction" (D&E) abortions. This brutal method is commonly used starting at about 14 weeks of pregnancy and extending into the third trimester.

**Would you vote for the Dismemberment Abortion Ban Act, to place a state ban on the use of dismemberment abortion in Maryland?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

### (3) ABORTIONS SOUGHT BY MINORS - PARENT OR GUARDIAN CONSENT ACT

Laws are in effect in 31 states requiring notification or consent of at least one parent (or authorization by a judge) before an abortion can be performed on a minor. The Abortions Sought by Minors - Parent or Guardian Consent Act would require parental or guardian consent for minors under 18 seeking an abortion. The Current Maryland law is deeply flawed and theoretically requires parental or guardian notification prior to a minor's abortion, however the abortionist can waive the notification requirements if they feel that it is in the best interest of the minor not to involve her parents.

**Would you vote for the Abortions Sought by Minors - Parent or Guardian Consent Act, to protect minor girls in Maryland?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**(4) PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE ACT**

Physician-assisted suicide has been legalized in 5 states. While proponents believe it needs to be an option for those with a terminal medical diagnosis in great pain or discomfort, the reality is that legalized suicide creates a culture in which the elderly, infirm, and disabled begin to feel societal pressure to die. During the 2015, 2016, and 2017 legislative sessions, Physician-Assisted Suicide Bills were proposed in the Maryland legislature. Though none of these measures were ever reported out of committee, there is reason to believe so-called "aid in dying" interest groups will seek to have similar legislation introduced in future sessions. These proposed measures would legalize physician-assisted suicide in Maryland.

**Would you vote AGAINST the legalization of Physician Assisted Suicide Legislation in both committee and on the floor?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**(5) MARYLAND ABORTION REPORTING LAW**

The state of Maryland is one of very few states that does not require the collection of data concerning abortion. As a result, no one truly knows how many abortions are performed in our state annually. This lack of reporting paints an incomplete picture of teen pregnancy, maternal health, and birth rates in our state. As one of the only states in the country that allows and indeed regularly performs, late-term abortions through the entire 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester, the lack of data reporting hinders meaningful studies of the procedure in Maryland.

**Would you vote for a law requiring reporting of abortions performed in the state of Maryland?**

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_