

2008 Maryland State Legislative Summary

1. Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) introduced (1) a bill that would require **Crisis Pregnancy Centers (CPCs) to provide disclosure** to their clients that they are not medical facilities and (2) a bill to increase funding for family planning services.
2. PPM killed a **CPC funding bill** and an **abortion reporting bill** before introduction.
3. In addition, PPM killed the **Teenage Protection Act** which would have required abortion providers in Anne Arundel County to show their patients under age 20 an ultrasound image before performing the abortion (we already do this for all ages).
4. PPM also thwarted an attempt to provide **CPC funding through the supplemental budget**.
5. Finally, PPM staved off **4 anti-choice floor amendments** that would have severely restricted a woman's right to choose.

Crisis Pregnancy Centers bill

Good News:

- The Senate and House committees were convinced that there is a problem with CPCs.
- In addition many more members of the legislature are educated about the problem of CPCs.
- The antis spent an extraordinary amount of time and resources opposing the bill.
- PPM plans to introduce the bill again.

Bad News:

- The committees were not comfortable with the language in the bill and want us to work out a compromise.
- The Maryland pro-choice community did not generate the grassroots response to counter the huge anti-choice response.
- Our thanks to nearly 400 of our Planned Parenthood advocates who sent over 1300 emails to their legislators in support of this bill.

Family Planning Funding bill:

Good News:

- PPM educated the committees about the importance of prevention of unintended pregnancy.
- PPM was also able to convey the important role PPM plays in preventing unintended pregnancy and abortion.

Bad News: No additional money for family planning, again.

Teenage Protection Act (Anne Arundel County):

Good News:

- PPM was able to point out that if anti-choice legislators REALLY want to reduce abortion, they should be working to reduce unintended pregnancy through the family planning programs already in existence.
- The bill was seen as an extreme measure that would place an undue burden on providers.
- The bill was not considered a "local bill" which would have meant it would potentially get "local courtesy" on a floor vote and make it much more likely to pass.
- Hurray for our 80 Anne Arundel County Planned Parenthood email advocates who sent 277 emails to their legislators!

Bad News:

- The sponsors plan to introduce the bill again next year and try to make it a "local bill".
- The CPC bill was sacrificed in order to kill this bill.