

granting of consent therefor be a condition precedent to the receipt of any public benefits. ]

Section 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Section 556 E be and hereby is added to Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1972 Supplement), title "Health", subtitle "Hospitals and Related Institutions," to follow immediately after Section 556 D, and to read as follows:

556 E.

(A) NO PERSON SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PERFORM OR PARTICIPATE IN, OR REFER TO ANY SOURCE FOR, ANY [(ELECTIVE)] MEDICAL PROCEDURE [(NOT REQUIRED IN ORDER TO SAVE LIFE INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,)] THAT RESULTS IN TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY, STERILIZATION[(,)] OR ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION; AND THE REFUSAL OF ANY PERSON TO PERFORM OR PARTICIPATE IN OR REFER TO A SOURCE FOR SUCH MEDICAL PROCEDURE SHALL NOT BE A BASIS FOR CIVIL LIABILITY TO ANY PERSON NOR A BASIS FOR ANY DISCIPLINARY OR ANY OTHER RECRIMINATORY ACTION AGAINST HIM.

(B) NO HOSPITAL, HOSPITAL DIRECTOR OR GOVERNING BOARD SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PERMIT THE PERFORMANCE OF ANY [(ELECTIVE)] MEDICAL PROCEDURE [(NOT REQUIRED IN ORDER TO SAVE LIFE INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,)] THAT RESULTS IN TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY, STERILIZATION[(,)] OR ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION, WITHIN ITS INSTITUTION; NOR SHALL ANY HOSPITAL, HOSPITAL DIRECTOR OR GOVERNING BOARD BE REQUIRED TO REFER ANY PERSON TO A SOURCE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF SUCH MEDICAL PROCEDURES; AND THE REFUSAL TO PERMIT SUCH PROCEDURES OR TO REFER TO SOURCES FOR SUCH PROCEDURES, SHALL NOT BE GROUNDS FOR CIVIL LIABILITY TO ANY HOSPITAL, INSTITUTION OR PERSON NOR A BASIS FOR ANY DISCIPLINARY OR OTHER RECRIMINATORY ACTION AGAINST HIM OR IT BY THE STATE OR ANY PERSON.

(C) THE REFUSAL OF ANY PERSON TO SUBMIT TO AN ABORTION OR STERILIZATION OR TO GIVE CONSENT THEREFOR SHALL NOT BE GROUNDS FOR LOSS OF ANY PRIVILEGES OR IMMUNITIES TO WHICH SUCH PERSON WOULD OTHERWISE BE ENTITLED NOR SHALL SUBMITTING TO AN ABORTION OR STERILIZATION OR THE GRANTING OF CONSENT THEREFOR BE A CONDITION PRECEDENT TO THE RECEIPT OF ANY PUBLIC BENEFITS.

Section 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1973.

Approved May 24, 1973.

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