

# Overview of Choice-Related Bills

## Scored Votes in the SENATE

### **SB 155 – FDA Approved Methods of Contraception in the Family Life Education Guidelines** **Senator Donald McEachin (D-Richmond)**

SB 155 would have amended the Code of Virginia to reflect the Family Life Education guidelines established by the Board of Education to include the use of FDA approved methods of contraception to prevent unintended pregnancy, along with abstinence and disease prevention. This bill was defeated on the floor of the Senate by a vote of 17-22. A “Yes” vote was a pro-choice vote. SB 155’s companion bill in the House, HB 1403, was not permitted a hearing by anti-choice House leadership.

### **SB 30, Budget Amendment Item 297 – Abstinence-Only Funding** **Senator Ken Cuccinelli (R-Fairfax)**

Governor Kaine’s budget removed over \$275,000 in state matching funds for federal abstinence-only programs. This amendment attempted to reinsert these funds into the state budget. It was defeated on the floor of the Senate by a vote of 18-19. A “No” vote was a pro-choice vote.

### **HB 30, Budget Amendment – Prohibition of State Expenditures for Planned Parenthood** **Senator Ken Cuccinelli (R-Fairfax)**

This amendment would have prohibited all state expenditures to Planned Parenthood. It passed on the floor of the Senate by a vote of 21-20. The tie-breaking vote was cast by Lieutenant Governor Bill Bolling (R). A “No” vote was a pro-choice vote. This amendment was removed from the final version of the budget sent to Governor Kaine.

## Scored Votes in the HOUSE

### **HB 894 – Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers** **Delegate Matthew Lohr (R-Harrisonburg)**

HB 894 would have required first trimester abortion providers to meet onerous and medically unnecessary architectural, procedural, staffing, and equipment requirements. It passed the House of Delegates 60-37. A “No” vote was a pro-choice vote. The bill was defeated in the Senate Education and Health Committee by a vote of 10-5.

### **HB 1126 – Punishing Pregnant Women** **Delegate Chris Jones (R-Suffolk)**

HB 1126 would have amended the Code of Virginia to include pregnant women as possible perpetrators of illegally causing an abortion or miscarriage, and classified such an act as a Class 4 Felony. The bill passed the House of Delegates 68-31. A “No” vote was a pro-choice vote. The bill was defeated in the Senate Committee on Education and Health by a vote of 9-5.

### **HB 1315 – Mandatory Ultrasound Requirement** **Delegate Kathy Byron (R-Lynchburg)**

HB 1315 would have interfered in the doctor-patient relationship by mandating that physicians perform a medically unnecessary ultrasound before performing an abortion. It passed the House of Delegates 62-37. A “No” vote was a pro-choice vote. The bill was defeated in the Senate Committee on Education and Health by a vote of 11-4.

### **HB 1556 – Biased Counseling** **Delegate Benjamin Cline (R-Lexington)**

HB 1556 would have required physicians to distribute medically disputed information to women seeking to obtain an abortion. It passed the House of Delegates 68-31. A “No” vote was a pro-choice vote. The bill was defeated in the Senate Committee on Education and Health by a vote of 10-5.

### **Budget Amendment 4-5.04 1h – Extreme Limitations on Low-Income Women's Access to Abortion** **Delegate Robert Marshall (R-Prince William)**

Virginia prohibits state funding for abortion services for low-income women except in cases of rape, incest, threat to the life of the mother, and severe, incapacitating fetal anomaly. The Marshall amendment would have removed the exception for fetal anomaly and limited state funding to only those circumstances required by federal law. It passed the House of Delegates 60-36. A “No” vote was a pro-choice vote. This amendment was removed from the final version of the budget sent to Governor Kaine.