June 30, 2020

The changes to Virginia law mark a major setback for women's health. It now will be legal for non-physicians to perform abortions and abortion clinics will no longer have to meet established medical safety standards - something especially dangerous in the midst of a pandemic. The law also allows abortion clinics to deny women the right to receive the results of tests performed on them prior to an abortion.

Effectively, the law sacrifices the health, safety, and rights of pregnant women, prioritizing the interests of the abortion industry over those of Virginia women. Having sponsored the law that required abortion clinics meet established medical safety standards and the law that guaranteed women the right to see the results of all tests performed on them prior to an abortion, the repeal of these measures is especially disheartening. But, led by a governor who publicly expressed his disregard for life in advocating post-birth abortions, Virginia Democrats have enacted laws that encourage abortions to the detriment of women's health.

Sincerely,

Kathy J. Byron, Member
House of Delegates
22nd District