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Chairs, Members of the Judiciary Committee
My name is Marge Kilkelly, I live in Dresden.

I am opposed to LD 975 An Act to Criminalize Abortion

975 creates a situation where the state mandates that a person carry a pregnancy to term even at the cost of their own life or well-being, thereby taking that person hostage to their own biology. We do not force people to donate blood or organs to save the lives of others, even when they are a perfect match. And yet, some would force women to endure dangerous pregnancies against their will, regardless of their health, their future, or their ability to care for the children they already have. This is Hostage taking- Pregnancy Hostage.

This bill does not acknowledge that two people are required to create a pregnancy and assigns no responsibility to the impregnator.

The bill requires government access to personal records about miscarriage and abortion, that information should include personal information about the impregnator.

When sex is intended for procreation that process is consensual and the pregnancy is the desired result and the challenges of that pregnancy, birth and subsequent child rearing are shared.

In some cases, the sex act is not intended to result in pregnancy. Birth control fails, the relationship is not anticipated to be long term, the relationship may be an extra marital affair. The violence of rape and incest also leads to pregnancy. In these cases, the woman bears full responsibility for the consequences of the pregnancy. That is not fair and never has been.

If government policy requires pregnancy, the government must share the responsibility with the other two parties.

Since neither the government or the impregnator can assume the work of the pregnancy, and since the woman has no choice or ability to take a break from the pregnancy, the shared responsibility is compensation for the Pregnancy Hostage.

This goes far beyond Child Support during pregnancy. Pregnancy is a risky condition and the woman bears the brunt of that risk. 120 women have died of pregnancy complication while being held Pregnancy Hostages in Texas.

A Pregnancy Hostage must be paid for 24 hours a day and the number of days the pregnancy continues. The compensation must extend for 6 weeks after the pregnancy concludes for recovery time. The wage must be equal to the wage and benefits the Pregnancy Hostage is currently earning; less her actual work time. If the Pregnancy Hostage is a student or not employed the rate will be the current minimum wage for 24 hours a day throughout the pregnancy. The compensation must be paid on the same schedule as her regular wages. (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly) The Pregnancy Hostage would be able to claim the fetus as a dependent during the pregnancy.

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If the impregnator is not financially able to provide the required funding the government requiring the pregnancy would need to initially cover the cost. The new law should include a state claw back provision that would provide a lien on any future earnings or property of the impregnator so that the state and taxpayers could recover the costs. If the impregnator does not cooperate, the state would have the ability to limit professional and other licenses as well as garnishing wages.

If the Pregnancy Hostage dies, becomes unable to carry a pregnancy in the future, or is permanently incapacitated as a result of the forced pregnancy the impregnator would be responsible for all support and final expenses.

To anyone who thinks this is an outrageous proposal I suggest you look at the compensation received by surrogates- with the biggest difference being that a surrogate is a willing participant in the pregnancy where the Pregnancy Hostage is not.

No person should be held captive by their own body for the sake of political ideology. If we believe in liberty, in justice, and in the right of individuals to control their own lives, then we must reject policies that hold women hostage to pregnancy.

I urge you to recognize that this is not simply a debate about when life begins. It is also a debate about whether women are free human beings or whether they are subject to forced use of their bodies in ways that no other citizens are. The choice is clear. Either we uphold human dignity for all, or we accept a future in which women are prisoners of their own biology.

I ask you to oppose this legislation and stand for true freedom.

For example, a woman earning \$25.00 hour plus \$14.00 in benefits would be eligible for compensation of \$39.00 hour. If Medicaid is provided in lieu of health insurance the cost of that coverage could be deducted.

The Pregnancy Hostage Compensation would be $\$39.00 \text{ hr} \times 24 \text{ hours a day} \times 7 \text{ days a week} = \6552 .

While she is able to work 40 hours per week (or her regular weekly schedule and maintain her benefits) that amount would be deducted from the weekly compensation.
 $\$39.00 \times 40 \text{ Hours} = \1560 weekly .

The net Pregnancy Hostage Compensation would be paid on the same schedule as her employment; weekly, bi-weekly, monthly. If she is not able to work the compensation would increase accordingly.

The compensation continues for a minimum of 6 weeks after the end of the pregnancy for recovery.