A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Personhood Amendment

FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Declaration of Rights to establish that the right not to be deprived of life is vested in all human beings, irrespective of age, health, function, physical dependency, or method of reproduction, from the beginning of their biological development; making technical changes; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution Declaration of Rights Article 24

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, (Three–fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That it be proposed that the Maryland Constitution read as follows:

Declaration of Rights

Article 24.

(A) That no [man] PERSON ought to be taken or imprisoned or disseized of [his] THE PERSON'S freehold, liberties or privileges, or outlawed, or exiled, or, in any manner, destroyed, or deprived of [his] life, liberty or property, but by the judgment of [his] THE PERSON'S peers, or by the Law of the land.
(B) THAT THE RIGHT NOT TO BE DEPRIVED OF LIFE IS VESTED IN ALL HUMAN BEINGS, IRRESPECTIVE OF AGE, HEALTH, FUNCTION, PHYSICAL DEPENDENCY, OR METHOD OF REPRODUCTION, FROM THE BEGINNING OF THEIR BIOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by this Act affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the Maryland Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in November, 2010 for their adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on this proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against the Constitutional Amendment,” as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.