

HR #1 (substitute)– Human Rights – Endorse the Draft International Convention for the Abolition of Surrogacy

Hugh Esco (Fulton County, [REDACTED]) offers the following by substitute:

Amend the Platform of the Georgia Green Party, in the chapter on Human Rights, by inserting a new paragraph to the introductory text, to read:

Global surrogacy, in spite of the impact of the COVID19 pandemic, had an estimated market value of \$4 billion in 2020, down from \$5.5 billion in 2019, and is estimated to grow at rates exceeding 30% over much of the coming decade, to nearly \$34 billion by 2027. Demand grows largely in the global West dependent on wealthy or desperate would-be parents. The global South is left to supply the wombs and bodies of impoverished women as a locus for production. A growing number of nations, acting on their commitments under the Convention for the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women, have in recent years enacted laws to prohibit the exploitation by the international surrogacy market of women within their borders. This has served to shift this market in the bodies of women into unregulated jurisdictions, particularly South Asia, Eastern Europe and a couple of nations in Africa. The practice in the United States is largely unregulated or too often explicitly permitted (on a state-by-state basis) in this nation. Women used in surrogacy and their offspring are often exempt from the usual protections of the adoption process, under a patchwork of statutory and case law environments. A longitudinal study first circulated in 2012 for peer review, found that "surrogacy children showed higher levels of adjustment difficulties at age 7 than children conceived by gamete donation". This study concluded that the "absence of a gestational connection to the mother may be more problematic for children than the absence of a genetic link."

Amend the chapter on Human Rights, further, by inserting a new plank, to read:

#. Endorse the Draft International Convention for the Abolition of Surrogacy

The Georgia Green Party finds that surrogate motherhood relies on the appropriation and trafficking of women's reproductive capacities and poses threats of serious physical endangerment and psychological anguish for the women contracted to carry surrogate children and psychological issues for their children. The practice infringes on, reinforces and perpetuates inequality between women and men. We endorse the "Draft International Convention for the Abolition of Surrogacy," crafted by the International Coalition for the Abolition of Surrogate Motherhood. We will work to protect women in Georgia and globally from the predatory domestic and global surrogacy market and its reliance on the trafficking of impoverished women's bodies. We urge would-be parents who might have considered surrogacy to consider instead the meaningful contributions they might make as foster or adoptive parents.