



FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

BACKGROUNDER

TERMINATION OF PREGNANCIES

SUPPORT: SB 1722 (Stargel); HB 1411 (Burton)

BACKGROUND: SB 1722/HB 1411 address several areas of concern with regard to abortions that occur in Florida. Some of these areas include:

Admitting Privileges/Transfer Agreements: All physicians who perform Levels II or III surgeries in a non-hospital office or clinic must have admitting privileges or a transfer agreement with a hospital. In abortion facilities, however, only medical directors, and not all physicians performing terminations of pregnancy, are required to have admitting privileges or a transfer agreement with a hospital.

Public Funding for Abortions: Federal funding of abortion is prohibited and Medicaid funds are only used for abortions in the cases of rape, incest, or to protect the life of the mother; however, some local and state funds are allocated to abortion providers for non-abortion services.

BILL PROVISIONS:

- Require abortion clinics have transfer agreements and physicians who perform abortions have admitting privileges with hospitals within 30 minutes by emergency vehicle
- Prohibit public funding for an organization that owns, operates, or is affiliated with a licensed abortion clinic, with some exceptions.

RATIONALE: This legislation guarantees any physician performing an abortion is able to admit or transfer a patient into a hospital within 30 minutes by emergency vehicle when complications arise, protecting the health and safety of women who choose abortion.

Additionally, public funding will be redirected to other health care providers who do not promote abortion.

*For additional information, please contact --
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