

SUPPORT HB 2495

The Illinois Reproductive Health Act



Sponsors:

Cassidy-Welch-Feigenholtz-Evans-Gordon Booth- Jones-Stuart-Hernandez-Williams-Conroy-Moylan-Didech-Walker-Stava Murray-Harris-Moeller-Villanueva-Ramirez-Harper-Slaughter-Mah-Ortiz-Morgan-Gong Gershowitz-Guzzardi-Gabel-Mussman-Robinson-Connor-Carroll- Martwick-Andrade-Arroyo-Zalewski-Villa-Willis-Davis-Ammons

The Trump/Pence Administration and their followers in Congress are very direct – their goal is to outlaw reproductive health care, including many contraceptives, and with the changed balanced on the Supreme Court, the threat is real. **We must act now before it is too late to protect women in Illinois.**

Illinois law needs to protect the health and safety of women in our state – this year. We cannot wait for another election cycle or for more opportunities for the courts to limit access to reproductive health care and maternal care. The time is now for Illinois law recognize that reproductive care is health care, not criminal activity.

The RHA provides a critical update and modernization to Illinois' outdated law so that the state treats abortion, contraception and maternal care like all health care, with regulations that reflect current medical standards.

WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR EVERY WOMAN IN ILLINOIS?

The following are currently enjoined Illinois laws that **AGAIN** could become **OUR** law when **Roe** is overturned:*

- **Spousal Consent** - A married woman will be **REQUIRED** to get her husband's consent to get an abortion. (Enjoined in *Wynn v. Scott*, 449 F. Supp. 1302 (N.D. Ill. 1978), *aff'd sub nom.*, *Wynn v. Carey*, 599 F. 2d 193 (7th Cir. 1979))
- **Doctor Consent Committees** - Women will have to **BEG** multiple doctors to gain their approval in order to obtain an abortion, reminiscent of the degrading pre-*Roe* hospital consent committees. (Enjoined in *Wynn*.)
- **Restrictions on certain forms of birth control** (Enjoined in *Charles v. Carey*, 627 F.2d. 772 (7th Cir. 1980).)
- **24 Hour Waiting Periods** - Abortion will be the **ONLY** medical procedure with a dangerous and unnecessary mandated waiting period. (Enjoined in *Charles*.)
- **Misinformation Consent** - Doctors will be required to read **INFLAMMATORY** anti-choice propaganda that has no scientific or medical basis, such as falsely asserting that abortion causes breast cancer, to every woman seeking an abortion. (Enjoined in *Charles*.)
- **Hospital Requirement and other TRAP laws** - Despite abortion being **SAFER** than nearly all other outpatient medical procedures and the abortion pill being as safe as an Advil or Tylenol, all abortions will be required to be performed in hospital settings at extraordinary expense. (Enjoined in *Ragsdale* litigation, 941 F.2d 501 (7th Cir. 1991).)
- **No Confidentiality** - Patient confidentiality will not be protected as abortion **REPORTING** requirements sought by anti-choice groups to harass and intimidate women will be in force. (Enjoined in *Wynn*, *Charles* and *Herbst* litigation.)
- **Bans assisted reproductive techniques, such as in vitro, and certain forms of prenatal testing** (Enjoined in *Lifchez v. Hartigan*, 735 F. Supp. 1361 (N.D. Ill. 1990).)
- **Criminal Penalties** - Doctors will face **NUMEROUS** criminal penalties for performing an abortion. (The Illinois Abortion Law of 1975, as amended multiple times, treats reproductive health services as criminal acts and imposes criminal penalties on doctors.)

In Addition-Private insurance companies, that freely cover VIAGRA and other male enhancement drugs and procedures, will be free to deny coverage for abortion care and birth control, even when a woman’s health is threatened or she is a victim of rape or incest. The future of HB 40 will be put into question.

WHY SUPPORT HB 2495	
What does it mean to support HB 2495	What does it mean to oppose HB 2495
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You agree that a woman’s health must drive important medical decisions during pregnancy. You agree that a woman should be able to make all of her own decisions about prenatal care, medical interventions, and the circumstances under which she gives birth. <u>This includes decisions like whether to have an induction, epidural anesthesia, or cesarean surgery.</u> You agree that that reproductive health is a fundamental right—including using or refusing birth control. You agree that Illinois should treat reproductive health care as health care, not as a criminal act. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opposing this measure is putting Illinois women at risk of being harmed by the Trump Administration agenda that seeks to steal decision-making power away from women and their doctors. Opposing this measure is supporting antiquated laws that place doctors and women at risk of being charged criminally for seeking medical care.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS	
<p> ACLU of Illinois AIDS Foundation of Chicago American Association of University Women Catholics for Choice Chicago Abortion Fund Chicago Votes Citizen Action Illinois Coalition for a Better Illinois 6th Equality Illinois EverThrive Illinois Family Planning Associates Health & Medicine Policy Research Group Hope Clinic for Women Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health Illinois Choice Action Team Illinois NOW Local 881 UFCW McHenry County Citizens for Choice </p>	<p> Midwest Access Project Men4Choice Mujeres Latinas en Accion NARAL Pro-Choice America National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum National Association of Social Workers Illinois Chapter National Council of Jewish Women Illinois Personal PAC Planned Parenthood of Illinois Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law Sierra Club Illinois Whole Woman’s Health Whole Woman’s Health Alliance Winnebago County Citizens for Choice Women’s March Illinois </p>