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PERSONAL PAC RELEASES NEW STATEWIDE POLL

Illinois Voters Want Dangerous PNA Law Repealed

Chicago...Today, Personal PAC released the results of a statewide poll it recently conducted showing that Illinois voters want the General Assembly to repeal the cruel and dangerous "parental notice of abortion" (PNA) law. "This 1995 law, authored by right-wing Republicans, is completely out of step with a significant majority of Illinois voters."

A wide plurality of all Illinois voters understand how harmful PNA is to vulnerable young women with 46% saying PNA should be repealed compared to just 29% who support keeping the law, with 25% not sure. 51% of women want it repealed compared to 26% who think it should remain. Among Democrats, 56% want PNA repealed while it is supported by only 17% of Democrats. 50% of Independents want PNA shelved and even 29% of Republicans think PNA is a bad law that should be repealed. 57% of all voters in the age group of 18-45, the fastest growing group of voters, want PNA off the Illinois statutes.

"The repeal of PNA is not only supported by voters, but it also mirrors the political adage that 'smart policy is smart politics.'" 48% of Democratic voters are less likely to vote for a State Senator or State Representative who votes to keep PNA the law in Illinois. Just 12% of Democrats are more likely to vote for someone who supports keeping PNA as the law. 34% of Independents are less likely to vote for someone who opposes PNA repeal, versus 17% who are more likely to vote for someone who supports keeping PNA. Again, 29% of Republicans are less likely to vote for a Senator or Representative who doesn't support PNA repeal. 43% of the growing demographic of all voters ages 18-45, are less likely to support a candidate who doesn't support repeal of PNA, while only 17% are more likely.

"It is clear that too much time has passed and too much harm has been done to justify keeping the right-wing inspired PNA the law in Illinois for even one more day."

There is overwhelming medical consensus that laws like PNA harm young women. The American Academy of Pediatrics has stated that it "increases the risk of harm to the adolescent by delaying access to appropriate medical care." The conservative American Medical Association (AMA) states, "while minors should be encouraged to discuss their pregnancy with their parents and other adults, minors should not be required to involve their parents before deciding whether to undergo an abortion." (JAMA 1/6/93 Vol 269, No. 1)

Abortion is the ONLY type of pregnancy-related health care for which Illinois law requires young women to involve their parents. Young people under 18 can access contraceptive methods to prevent pregnancy, decide to continue a pregnancy, access prenatal care, make decisions around labor and

delivery, and consent to a caesarean section without involving a parent. Young women can also choose to place a child for adoption without any requirement of parental involvement.

Thirteen states do not require any form of parental involvement in a minor's abortion decision and Illinois needs to join them as the 14th state before this session of the General Assembly concludes. The voters have spoken and now it is time for elected officials to hear them and act.

PNA repeal is sponsored by Senator Elgie Sims (SB 2190) and Representative Anna Moeller (HB 1797).

The poll was conducted by Public Policy Polling April 28-29, 2021 among 700 registered voters statewide. <https://www.personalpac.org/poll-results/>

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