
HOUSE BILL 2840

State of Washington

56th Legislature

2000 Regular Session

By Representatives Fortunato, Koster, Carrell, Schindler, Campbell,
Lambert and Benson

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to protecting the health of women by requiring that
2 only physicians perform abortions; amending RCW 9.02.110 and 9.02.170;
3 creating a new section; and declaring an emergency.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the medical risks
6 to the health of women as a result of obtaining an abortion makes it
7 necessary to clarify that only qualified health care personnel may
8 perform abortions or assist in performing abortions.

9 **Sec. 2.** RCW 9.02.110 and 1992 c 1 s 2 are each amended to read as
10 follows:

11 The state may not deny or interfere with a woman's right to choose
12 to have an abortion prior to viability of the fetus, or to protect her
13 life or health.

14 A physician may terminate (~~and a health care provider may assist~~
15 ~~a physician in terminating~~)) a pregnancy as permitted by this section.
16 A health care provider may assist a physician who is terminating a
17 pregnancy but only a physician may terminate a pregnancy.

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 9.02.170 and 1992 c 1 s 8 are each amended to read as
2 follows:

3 For purposes of this chapter:

4 (1) "Viability" means the point in the pregnancy when, in the
5 judgment of the physician on the particular facts of the case before
6 such physician, there is a reasonable likelihood of the fetus's
7 sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of
8 extraordinary medical measures.

9 (2) "Abortion" means any medical treatment intended to induce the
10 termination of a pregnancy except for the purpose of producing a live
11 birth.

12 (3) "Pregnancy" means the reproductive process beginning with the
13 implantation of an embryo.

14 (4) "Physician" means a physician licensed to practice under
15 chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW in the state of Washington.

16 (5) "Health care provider" means a physician (~~(or a)~~) and any other
17 person ((acting under the general direction of a physician)) licensed
18 by this state under Title 18 RCW to provide health care services.

19 (6) "State" means the state of Washington and counties, cities,
20 towns, municipal corporations, and quasi-municipal corporations in the
21 state of Washington.

22 (7) "Private medical facility" means any medical facility that is
23 not owned or operated by the state.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** If any provision of this act or its
25 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
26 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
27 persons or circumstances is not affected.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act is necessary for the immediate
29 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
30 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
31 immediately.

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