

Women's Health Equity Bill: We have worked with legislators this year to develop and champion positive, proactive legislation in support of women's health. Sponsored by Senator Jeff Yarbrow and Representative Johnnie Turner, the bill requires coverage of contraception in a way that both protects and expands the Affordable Care Act's birth control benefit and requires coverage for women's preventive services. The bill prohibits workplace or political discrimination against women regarding their health coverage. Read the bill here: [HB 2627/SB 2185](#).

Status Update: The Women's Health Equity Bill is on Notice in the House Insurance and Banking Committee for Wednesday, 3/14. It will be considered by the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee on Tuesday, 3/20.

Defunding of Planned Parenthood: We're facing two bills that take different routes to cut off women from visiting Planned Parenthood health centers. Representative Jimmy Matlock of Lenoir City has introduced a bill that would direct the Commissioner of Finance and Administration in Tennessee to amend Tennessee's existing 1115 Medicaid waiver to exclude abortion providers. Texas has already submitted such a waiver to the federal government and is waiting for a response. The Trump-Pence Administration is likely to approve the Texas request and waive the requirement that Medicaid recipients have a right to visit the qualified Medicaid provider of their choice. So, if Tennessee files the same type of waiver, it may be successful. We need to [defeat HB 2251/SB 2148](#).

There's another bill we're still analyzing that takes a different approach at limiting women's health care options sponsored by Representative Bill Dunn of Knoxville and Senator Jack Johnson of Brentwood. [HB 2262/SB 2494](#) would change how family planning funds are dispersed to health care providers.

Status Update: HB 2251/SB 2148 has been rolled to Tuesday, 3/6 at 10:30 am in the House Hearing Room 1 in the Cordell Hull Building, 425 5th Avenue North. HB 2262/SB 2494 has advanced and will go to the full House Wednesday 2/28 at 12:30pm. We need supporters to show up in Planned Parenthood pink.

Heartbeat Bill: Representative Micah VanHuss of Gray has once again introduced legislation that bans abortion when a heartbeat is detected, which is an unconstitutional abortion ban. [HB 108/SB 244](#) is co-sponsored by Senator Mark Pody of Lebanon. **Status Update: This bill was amended in order to address the original unconstitutional version and made to be "lame and tame". This bill passed in the House Health Committee and is ready to be considered by Senate. We are monitoring to ensure that the amendment language stays in the bill.**

Physician Intimidation Bill: [HB 1746/SB 2365](#), sponsored by Representative Matthew Hill and Senator Rusty Crowe, requires information about an abortion provider be given to the woman seeking an abortion, including the doctor's name, the date the physician became employed, the year in which the physician earned their medical degree. This bill is designed to undermine confidence in highly qualified physicians, attempts to codify an unconstitutional law, and does nothing to improve the lives of Tennessee women and families. **Status Update: Placed on House Health Subcommittee on Wednesday, 2/28 at 3pm in House Hearing Room 3 in the Cordell Hull Building.**

Tennessee Monument to Unborn Children: [HB 2381/ SB 2227](#) is sponsored by Representative Jerry Sexton of Bean Station and Senator Steve Southerland of Morristown would create a commission to accept gifts for a “memorial” to unborn children which would be placed on the Capitol grounds. **Status Update:** Assigned to House State Government Subcommittee and referred to Senate State and Local Government Committee.

[Click here to help us fight back and write your legislators now](#)

TAPP Tracked Bills 2018

SB244/HB108 CRIMINAL LAW: Fetal heartbeat testing prior to an abortion.

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. VanHuss, James

Summary: Requires fetal heartbeat testing prior to an abortion and prohibits abortions from the point a fetal heartbeat is detected. Exceptions to criminal abortion include medical emergencies that complicate the condition of the pregnant woman as to necessitate an immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert her death or save the impairment of major bodily function.

Amendment Summary: House Health Subcommittee amendment (012266) calls for the department of health to collect data on the detection of heartbeats in cases where an ultrasound was performed before the termination of a pregnancy.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 24, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/02/17 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 02/01/18 - Set for House Health Committee 02/06/18.

SB548/HB406 MISCELLANEOUS: Public Participation Protection Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Ketron, Bill , Rep. Carter, Mike

Summary: Establishes protection of persons exercising rights of expression, including constitutional rights of expression on matters of public concern. Specifies civil procedures that encourage and safeguard the constitutional rights of persons to participate in government to the maximum extent permitted by law and also protect the rights of persons to file meritorious lawsuits for demonstrable injury.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 2, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/09/17 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 03/22/17 - Taken off notice in House Civil Justice Subcommittee.

SB757/HB898 HEALTH CARE: Requires healthcare provider to provide the estimated amount for a single procedure.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae , Rep. Williams, Ryan

Summary: Requires a healthcare provider to provide the estimated amount for a single procedure or episode of care, unless a medical emergency exists, within two business days of a request by a patient or prospective patient.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 27, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

House Status: 02/17/17 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

SB766/HB101 CRIMINAL LAW: Abortions after twenty weeks of pregnancy.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae , Rep. Weaver, Terri

Summary: Rewrites language to prohibit abortions after three months, but before twenty weeks of pregnancy or viability of the fetus. An abortion performed after twenty weeks of pregnancy or during viability of the fetus, will not be grounds for criminal abortion if the life and health of the mother is at risk.

Fiscal Note: (Dated January 26, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 02/01/17 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

SB883/HB1320 HEALTH CARE: Long-Acting Birth Control Information Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Stewart, Mike

Summary: Establishes program that includes training, assistance, financial support, education and outreach regarding LARCs for family planning centers and public health facilities as well as a study on making as many contraceptives possible available.

Amendment Summary: House Amendment 1 (005105) rewrites the bill to require the Department of Health to administer a program to improve access to voluntary reversible long-acting contraception (VRLAC). This program would include training and assistance for family planning centers and public health facilities. This assistance would include general financial support to expand the capacity of family planning centers to provide VRLAC. Since the services and supports are already in place, the fiscal note is not significant. House Amendment 2 (006569) adds language to the proposed legislation that requires the program to include education and outreach to the public to inform women about alternatives to abortion, including adoption services, and the numerous public and private agencies and services that are available to assist women during pregnancy and after the birth of the child.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 9, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/01/18 - Set for Senate Health & Welfare Committee 02/07/18.

House Status: 05/05/17 - House passed with amendment 1 (005105) and 2 (006569).

SB1142/HB721 INSURANCE HEALTH: Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Powell, Jason

Summary: Requires that every group health insurance policy not preempted by federal law provide coverage for all FDA approved contraceptives, voluntary sterilization procedures, education on contraceptives, and related follow up services. Allows for a religious exemption from the requirements of this act. Allows for children under the age of 21 to have access to these services provided they are desired by the child.

Fiscal Note: (Dated March 28, 2017) Increase State Expenditures \$120,600/FY17-18 \$241,200/FY18-19 and Subsequent Years Increase Federal Expenditures \$980,700/FY17-18 \$1,961,400/FY18-19 and Subsequent Years Potential Impact on Health Insurance Premiums (required by Tenn. Code Ann. 3-2-111): Such legislation included language prohibiting any increase in the cost of health insurance premiums for contraceptive drugs and procedures being provided by plans that do not currently offer these benefits at the proposed mandated levels.

Senate Status: 04/03/17 - Senate Commerce & Labor Committee deferred to 04/04/17.

House Status: 03/29/17 - Taken off notice in House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee.

Executive Status: 03/27/17 - Taken off notice in Joint Council on Pensions and Insurance.

Status:

SB1314/HB966 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Advisory council on payment reform in health care.

Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Hill, Matthew

Summary: Establishes an advisory council on payment reform in health care that is administratively attached to the general assembly. Requires that the council report to the health and welfare committee of the senate and the health committee of the house of representatives.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 15, 2017) Increase State Expenditures - \$7,600

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Government Operations Committee.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

SB1961/HB189 HEALTH CARE: Abortion - detection of fetal heartbeat.

2

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. VanHuss, James

Summary: Determines that a person is not guilty of a criminal abortion or attempt to procure a miscarriage if there is no fetal heartbeat determined or if there is a medical emergency and the abortion or attempt to procure a miscarriage is performed by a licensed physician. Requires the presence of absence of a fetal heartbeat to be determined and documented prior to a surgical or invasive intrauterine abortion and the results be made available to the pregnant woman. Requires that abortions or procured miscarriages due to medical emergency be listed on patient's medical records.

Senate Status: 02/01/18 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 01/31/18 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

SB1962/HB189 CRIMINAL LAW: Abortion - required notice in physicians' offices regarding coercion.

3

Sponsors: Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. VanHuss, James

Summary: Clarifies that the required notice on the illegality of coercing abortions must be displayed so that persons it applied to will notice it.

Senate Status: 02/01/18 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 01/31/18 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

SB2185/HB262 HEALTH CARE: Health benefit plan coverage of contraceptives.

7

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Turner, Johnnie

Senate Status: 01/31/18 - Filed for Introduction

House Status: 02/01/18 - Filed for Introduction

SB2365/HB174 HEALTH CARE: Abortion - information provided to woman regarding physician.

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Sponsors: Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Hill, Matthew

Summary: Requires specified information about the physician performing an abortion be made available to the woman prior to the procedure.

Senate Status: 02/01/18 - Filed for Introduction

House Status: 01/30/18 - Referred to House Health Subcommittee.

SB2494/HB226 FAMILY LAW: Revises the manner in which family planning funds may be disbursed.

2

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Dunn, Bill

Senate Status: 02/01/18 - Filed for Introduction

House Status: 01/31/18 - Filed for Introduction

SB2498/HB232 HEALTH CARE: Tennessee Ultrasound Sonographer Act.

1

Sponsors: Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Sargent, Charles

Senate Status: 02/01/18 - Filed for Introduction

House Status: 01/31/18 - Filed for Introduction

