

Fact Sheet: HB 41/SB 444 “Pregnancy Support Services”

HB 41/SB 444 attempts to establish “Pregnancy Support Services” (also referred to as Crisis Pregnancy Centers or CPCs) as legitimate wellness centers and appropriate state funding to support and promote child birth. For years, CPCs have been receiving state funding with zero oversight.

All health care providers should be regulated and while this legislation establishes regulation and guidelines for CPCs such as financial reports, background checks of staff, and non-coercive or religious information, we want to ensure that women receive medically accurate information to access the full range of reproductive health care services.

In promoting the health of women and pregnancy, the full range of reproductive health care should be offered.

- Under this legislation “Wellness services” means services or activities intended to maintain and improve health or prevent illness and injury, including, but not limited to, high blood pressure screening, flu vaccines, anemia testing, thyroid screening, cholesterol screening, diabetes screening, assistance with smoking cessation, and tetanus vaccines BUT does not include contraception or information about safe sex
- By limiting subcontractors to “exclusively those who promote childbirth” this legislation could cut out qualified family planning providers who provide birth control, testing and treatment
- of STIs or referrals to safe and legal abortion services. These providers might be the only health care center in many areas of our state.
- The state should ensure that all information provided by health care providers is medically accurate. This means information that is verified and supported by the weight of medical research conducted in compliance with accepted scientific methods.
- Due to some misconceptions around reproductive health care, it would be better to have a clear definition of what medically accurate information should entail.

All health care providers should be regulated and those regulations should be fair, unbiased and based on scientific evidence.

- While we support regulating entities that receive state funds, the lack of comprehensive services and medically accurate information is concerning.
- The best way to prevent unintended pregnancies is with contraception and medically accurate information around sexual health. That is why this legislation should promote the full range of reproductive health care, especially after a woman carries a pregnancy to term.