

**Abortion Restriction Omnibus Bill:  
Fetal Tissue Donation Ban, Unnecessary Surgical Privileges Mandate,  
Duplicate Inspection Mandate, Licensure Renewal Barrier**  
[SCS SB 644](#) - [Sen. Onder](#) Lake St. Louis (R-2)

**Patient health and safety are Planned Parenthood's top priority and are central to its mission.**

Every day, Planned Parenthood works to make sure women receive the high-quality health care they need in a safe, respectful environment. That includes providing abortion.

- Abortion is one of the safest medical procedures performed in the United States. Data, including from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), show that abortion has a greater than 99 percent safety record.
- Planned Parenthood adheres to medical standards and guidelines that are informed by the most trusted medical knowledge, as well as professional and scientific organizations, including the CDC, the Food and Drug Administration, the US Preventive Services Task Force, and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).
- Medically unnecessary, burdensome regulations that single out abortion providers must be recognized as part of an effort to drastically reduce access to safe and legal abortion.

**Fetal tissue donation saves lives and advances medicine.**

- Fetal tissue donation is a legal and ethical practice that has led to medical advances for decades, including lifesaving vaccines for polio and rubella. Today, fetal tissue research is contributing to groundbreaking research on treatments for diseases and conditions like diabetes, autism, and ALS. Fetal tissue research is also advancing understanding and prevention of maternal and fetal health conditions such as preeclampsia and fetal chromosomal disorders.
- If a woman chooses to make a tissue donation after an abortion, the choice is always and only hers.
- Though Planned Parenthood does not currently facilitate fetal tissue donation in Missouri, unnecessary restrictions on scientific research send the wrong message to scientific researchers and institutions that Missouri is trying to attract for academic and economic purposes.

**Requiring medically unnecessary surgical privileges harms women's health.**

- Mandating admitting and surgical privileges for physicians has no basis in evidence and is not medically necessary. These regulations are opposed by leading medical groups, including ACOG, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American Public Health Association.
- Mandating admitting and surgical privileges does nothing to protect women's health and safety. In the rare event that a patient experiences complications and needs care at a hospital, there are already procedures in place to ensure that she gets safe and immediate care. Requiring these privileges only harms women's health by reducing access to safe and legal abortion.

- Every doctor who provides abortion at a Planned Parenthood health center in Missouri is licensed by the state and must have specific training in the provision of abortion services. Planned Parenthood health centers also undergo a thorough accreditation process with rigorous standards, regular review, and ongoing training. Planned Parenthood constantly evaluates new research in the field, new recommendations from medical associations, new technologies, and feedback from patients, experts, and regulators to continue improving.

**The inspection mandate singles out abortion providers and does not protect women’s health or safety.**

- The Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) currently determines the inspection schedule for all ambulatory surgical centers (ASC) in the state as required by law. The additional inspection mandate is neither medically necessary nor based in evidence. Rather, it is an attempt to add to the many targeted restriction of abortion providers (TRAP) laws on the books in Missouri.
- This inspection mandate singles out abortion providers for increased scrutiny. If this mandate were necessary for patient safety, it would apply to the hundred licensed ASCs in the state where more complicated surgeries on men, women, and children take place every day, rather than the two licensed abortion providers.
- Patient health and safety are Planned Parenthood’s top priority, and it adheres to all state and federal regulations as well as best medical practices. Abortion providers are already subject to extensive regulations, including licensure as an ASC. DHSS regularly conducts surveys to ensure compliance with the state’s extensive health center regulations.

**Imposing bureaucratic hurdles unrelated to patient health and safety will reduce access to safe and legal abortion.**

- Like all quality health care providers, abortion providers in Missouri adhere to numerous state and federal regulations to ensure patient safety. This regulation, however, is not about patient safety. It is not medically necessary or evidence-based.
- To provide abortion, a provider must have both an ASC license and a physician with state-mandated privileges. Currently, when a provider has a gap between physicians, no abortions are provided, but it may retain its ASC license. When a provider finds another physician, abortion services may resume immediately.
- This law would revoke a provider’s ASC license if they have a temporary gap between physicians. Instead of being able to immediately resume providing abortion services, the provider would have to go through the lengthy bureaucratic re-licensure process. This would harm patient health and safety by delaying access to safe and legal abortion.

Reproductive health care services are among the safest and most commonly sought forms of care in the U.S. However, that hasn’t stopped the anti-women’s health movement from increasing their efforts to eliminate access to abortion through the introduction of TRAP (targeted restrictions of abortion providers) bills and regulations that place unreasonable requirements on health care centers. TRAP bills stigmatize and burden abortion providers and chip away at abortion access under the guise of legitimate regulation.