



HB 167

by Rep. Matt Regier (R), House District 4

- ✦ Drives a false narrative to stigmatize abortion in Montana
- ✦ Would put women's health and privacy up to a vote with the ultimate goal of banning abortion altogether

**Call Senate Judiciary Committee members
and tell them to vote NO on HB 167!
406-444-4800**

HB 167 will be heard in Senate Judiciary Committee on Friday, February 5.

This Week at the Montana Legislature January 31, 2021

Keeping Up the Momentum

It's almost hard to believe that this week will kick off the second month of Montana's 67th Legislative Session. Almost. Anti-abortion legislators kept us busy throughout January and February will be no exception!

This week we'll be fighting [a bill that challenges sex education in Montana's K-12 schools](#) and [Rep. Gillette's attempt to block abortion coverage in private insurance policies](#), while House Bills [140](#) and [167](#) move to Senate Judiciary Committee for hearings.

We ask that you keep up the calls and messages to your legislators — they really do work! [Last Tuesday, the anti-trans bill HB 113 was voted down on its final vote in the House.](#) And despite concerns, the decision held strong in no small part because of the 'Thank You' messages that you sent to the 18 Republican legislators who voted 'no' on the measure.

Take Action This Week

Share your personal story.

Do you have a story of how access to safe, legal abortion in Montana has affected your life? You can help us to fight dangerous anti-choice legislation by [filling out our electronic story form here](#) or contacting Julia Maxon, Lead Grassroots Organizer, at 406-561-7649 or julia.maxon@ppmontana.org.

Tell your House representative to vote No on HB 229.

[Rep. Gillette's HB 229](#) will be voted on in the House this week. This bill is a blatant interference in Montanans' right to make personal health care decisions by blocking abortion coverage in private insurance policies offered through the ACA's health insurance exchange. Read below for details.

Call Senate Judiciary Committee.

On Friday, House Bills [140](#) and [167](#) will be heard in Senate Judiciary Committee. Call committee members and tell them to vote No on both! Read below for information on how these bills seek to shame women and stigmatize reproductive health care.

Tell Senate Education and Cultural Affairs Committee to vote No on SB 99.

On Wednesday, the Senate Education and Cultural Affairs Committee will hear [SB 99, Sen. Smith's attempt to create barriers to sex ed in Montana's schools and bar abortion providers like Planned Parenthood from offering educational resources](#).

Interested in giving public comment in writing, virtually testifying, or writing an LTE for your local newspaper? Contact Julia, 406-561-7649 or julia.maxon@ppmontana.org!

Bills We're Fighting This Week

SB 99: [Requiring parents to opt-in to sexual education in schools, Prohibiting abortion providers from offering education by Sen. Cary Smith \(R\), Senate District 27](#), would prohibit students from receiving any sex ed without written permission from their parents or guardians and would ban the use of educational resources offered by abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood of Montana. Comprehensive sex education covers everything from birth control and abstinence to STD prevention and safe, healthy relationships. Our young people must have every opportunity to equip themselves with the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy decisions. *This bill will be heard on Wednesday in the Senate Education and Cultural Resources Committee.*

HB 229: Prohibiting health insurance plans offered through the Health Insurance Exchange from covering abortion services [by Rep. Jane Gillette \(R\), House District 64](#), would mean that people who rely on the Affordable Care Act's Health Insurance Exchange would not have any options to get coverage for abortion. Banning this coverage from Exchange plans would place safe, legal abortion out of reach for the lowest income families in Montana. *This bill was passed in House Judiciary Committee on Friday and will next move to the House floor for debate and a vote.*

HB 140: Requiring the provision of information before performance of an abortion by Rep. Amy Regier (R), House District 6, claims to provide women with more information, but ultimately seeks to shame and dissuade them from exercising their constitutional right to abortion. *This bill was passed in the House last week and will be heard in Senate Judiciary Committee on Friday.*

HB 167: Referendum to adopt the Montana Born-Alive Infant Protection Act by Rep. Matt Regier (R), House District 4, uses inflammatory language to drive a false narrative and stigmatize abortion in Montana. As a referendum, it puts women's health and privacy up to a vote with the ultimate goal of banning abortion altogether. *This bill was passed in the House last week and will be heard in Senate Judiciary Committee on Friday.*

Legislation We're Watching

[HB 136: Establish pain-capable unborn child protection act by Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway \(R\), House District 22](#), would ban abortions at 20 weeks, regardless of the health of the woman or fetus, and criminalize doctors who provide them. It would also potentially endanger women by letting courts decide whether or not to keep their names private. *This bill was passed in the House and will be moving to Senate Judiciary Committee soon.*

HB 171: Adopt the Montana Abortion-Inducing Drug Risk Protocol Act by Rep. Sharon Greef (R), House District 88, would keep Montanans from accessing medication abortion, delaying access to health care and creating barriers to care — especially for those in rural areas. *This bill was passed in the House and will be moving to Senate Judiciary Committee soon.*

[LC 1513: Constitutional amendment to define 'person'](#) by Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R), House District 68, would change the definition of 'person' in Montana. *Because the change would define "fertilization or conception" as the beginning of life, it seeks to ban abortion altogether.* As an amendment to our state constitution, it requires a 2/3 majority 'Yes' vote from the legislature as a whole in order to be placed on the ballot for voters to ultimately decide in the next general election.

HB 112: Require interscholastic athletes to participate under sex assigned at birth by Rep. John Fuller (R), House District 8, would ban transgender athletes from participating in sports in Montana public schools. *This bill was passed in the House and will be moving to Senate Judiciary Committee soon.*

Questions about these bills or how you can help us fight them? Contact Julia, (julia.maxon@ppmontana.org)!

[Visit our website.](#)

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