

Expanding Misinformed Consent Across State Lines

[SB 883](#) - [Sen. Riddle](#), Fulton (R-10)

This bill forces Missouri's medically inaccurate "informed consent" materials onto women who choose abortion out of state.

We all want women to have medically accurate information and the support they need to make a carefully considered decision about pregnancy. Information should support a woman, help her make a decision for herself, and enable her to take care of her health and well-being.

This bill extends Missouri's medically inaccurate, government-scripted "informed consent" materials to other states. Senate Bill 883 creates new requirements for abortion and family planning providers. When an abortion or family planning provider gives a woman information about an out-of-state abortion provider, the organization is required to give her the same government-scripted, medically inaccurate "informed consent" materials as if she had decided to have the abortion in Missouri. These medically inaccurate materials are designed to shame a woman who is considering abortion into changing her mind. This bill requires providers to present the materials in person if the woman is physically present at the center, office, community outreach event, etc. If the inquiry is over the phone, the provider must offer to send the materials via overnight mail.

This bill is an attempt to shame a Missouri woman out of having an abortion - pure and simple.

- Forcing doctors to provide medically inaccurate information for political reasons is a violation of medical ethics and dangerously dismissive of a patient's right to truthful information from her doctor.
- Missouri's largest cities span state lines, and it is common for Missourians to receive services in other states. This is an attempt by politicians to impose their personal beliefs on all women, both in and out of Missouri.

Senate Bill 883 puts patient privacy and confidentiality at risk.

- The referring organization's name and address are required for overnight delivery. This risks violating a woman's privacy and the confidentiality of her medical treatment. Women who are in abusive relationships could be in great danger if their abuser—whether partner or parent—sees the return address or reads the materials.
- This bill creates additional bureaucracy for referring organizations that would be required to create and maintain records of referrals to individuals who are not their patients.
- Senate Bill 883 does not define compliance, nor does it specify how providers would demonstrate compliance. Yet the penalty for failure to comply is a Class A misdemeanor.

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

- Planned Parenthood will be here for the women and families who rely on them for their basic preventive health care, no matter what. Planned Parenthood Advocates will fight medically unnecessary, unconstitutional restrictions to abortion every step of the way.
- Planned Parenthood has been an important part of Missouri's health care network for over 80 years—and we will be here for the Missourians who rely on us another 80 years.
- One in five women in America has turned to one of Planned Parenthood's nonprofit health centers for professional, nonjudgmental, and confidential care at some point in her life.