

Medication Abortion Ban

[SB 1178](#) - [Sen. White](#) (R-32, Joplin), [HB 2810](#) - [Rep. Seitz](#) (R-156, Branson)

These bills restrict the shipment, manufacture, and provision of common obstetrics & gynecology medications used in abortion and non-abortion services.

Senate Bill 1178 and House Bill 2810 could have a chilling effect on patients who need access to common medications that just so happen to also be used for abortion care.

- The same medications used in medication abortions — misoprostol and mifepristone — are also commonly used for labor and delivery, [miscarriage management](#), ulcer treatments, and IUD insertions. The medications make certain procedures safer and more comfortable for patients. **These bills, which target manufacturers and distributors of these medicines, could make it impossible for Missourians to access these medications for any reason.**
- By targeting the import, export, distribution, delivery, and production of these medicines, opening manufacturers up to investigations and penalties, politicians intend to chill manufacturers from providing their life-saving medication in Missouri.
- Black women in Missouri die at [three times](#) the rate of white women when it comes to pregnancy, labor and delivery, and the postpartum period. These bills will only exacerbate the maternal mortality crisis in Missouri, causing more people to needlessly suffer and die.

The fact is that medication abortion is already effectively banned in Missouri.

- Reproductive Health Services, the sole abortion clinic in Missouri, does not currently offer medication abortion in Missouri because of unnecessary and invasive requirements, like a medically unnecessary pelvic exam, which politicians unethically forced on patients in 2019.
- Already, Missouri bans telemedicine abortion and requires the abortion pill to be dispensed in person. These bills try to ban the mailing of abortion pills directly to patients, which is already illegal in the state.
- Because medication abortions are tightly regulated to the point of nonexistence, these bills will have no effect on abortion access. Instead, the intent of these bills is to chill manufacturers and distributors with the aim of preventing the use of these life-saving medications for any purpose, including miscarriage management and labor and delivery.

These bills target a post-Roe future — if and when abortion in Missouri becomes illegal.

- Though abortion providers in Missouri comply above and beyond the laws and regulatory schemes setup by politicians, these bills threaten providers who utilize misoprostol and mifepristone in their non-abortion practices.
- The last thing doctors need is for non-medical experts to second-guess common procedures for patients and wonder if they'll be investigated and wrongly imprisoned for up to 20 years for simply doing their job and following the standard of care. Both bills, if enforced, threaten doctors with felonies and years in prison.

- While politicians say this would only enforce punishments for “illegal abortions,” they are purposely ignoring the risk of investigation for doctors who prescribe misoprostol and/or mifepristone for any reason.

Medication abortion is a safe way to end a pregnancy.

- [More than half](#) of all people who choose abortion utilize medication abortion to safely end a pregnancy.
- Missouri is falling behind best medical guidance. The FDA recently approved new [guidelines](#) that no longer require in-person dispensing. It's time for Missouri to bring its health care policies in line with the science.
- Medication abortion is safe and effective — safer than other common medical procedures like wisdom teeth removal and colonoscopies.