

Politics Over Patients: Abortion Method Ban Fact Sheet

[HB 1714](#) - [Rep. Hubrecht](#) (R-151) Dexter

This bill replaces the expertise of doctors with the will of politicians who want to ban all abortion in Missouri.

HB 1714 is a political attempt to ban the safest and most commonly used method of second-trimester abortion. Doctors need to be able to treat each of their patients individually based on their unique set of medical circumstances. Every major medical authority, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the World Health Organization, considers this procedure to be the safest method of second-trimester abortion. It must remain a legal part of basic health care for women if and when they need it.

Women should be trusted to make personal, medical decisions *without* consulting a politician.

- This bill is part of a broader strategy to ban safe and legal abortion in Missouri.
- With only one abortion provider in Missouri, many women in our state already struggle to access safe and legal abortion. Further restricting women's options for needed health care will disproportionately harm low-income and rural women, potentially making care inaccessible for them altogether.

House Bill 1714 raises serious constitutional concerns.

- Courts have ruled that a similar ban in Kansas violates both the state and federal Constitutions.
- At a time when the Missouri Legislature is refusing to expand Medicaid citing fiscal concerns, it is highly irresponsible to pursue legislation that will lead to expensive legal costs borne by the taxpayers.
- Instead of passing ideological bills that will be tied up in costly court battles, our legislators should focus on reducing the need for abortion by preventing unintended pregnancies and supporting families.

This bill will do nothing to reduce the need for abortion; it will only make abortion less safe.

- Eliminating the safest and most common method of second-trimester abortion ties physicians' hands. It prevents them from using their best medical judgment to care for women who are seeking safe and legal abortion. In many cases, other abortion methods pose greater risk to a woman's health.
- If Missouri wants to reduce the need for abortion, we should focus on improving women's health by providing comprehensive and medically accurate sex education, increasing access to contraception, and supporting working parents.

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.