



NARAL Pro-Choice North Carolina Foundation

RESTRICTIONS ON HEALTH CARE & ABORTION ACCESS

SB 132: Eroding Comprehensive Sex Education & the Healthy Youth Act

SB 132 would erode the Health Youth Act and force schools to teach students about a so-called link between abortion and pre-term deliveries as part of the healthy living curriculum. Trusted physicians and medical experts have found no correlation between abortion care and pre-term deliveries. This bill forces teachers to give inaccurate and misleading information to students.

NARAL Pro-Choice North Carolina Foundation wholeheartedly supports efforts to ensure health pregnancies and birth rates but this bill is not the solution. We encourage lawmakers interested in addressing the legitimate risk factors for pre-term deliveries to focus on providing scientifically accurate information about maternal nutrition, drug use, emotional and mental health to the youth of North Carolina rather than promoting anti-choice indoctrination.

SB 675: Mandatory Parental Involvement

SB 675 mandates physicians obtain parental consent prior to discussing options for prevention, making a diagnosis or providing treatment to someone under 18 for STIs, substance abuse, mental health and pregnancy. NARAL Pro-Choice North Carolina Foundation joins American Public Health Association, the Society for Adolescent Medicine, the American Medical Women's Association, the American College of Physicians, and the American Psychological Association in opposing mandatory parental involvement laws. Most parents hope their teens will seek out their advice and support, and research shows teens eventually do, but responsible parents want, above all, for their teenagers to be safe. Placing restrictions on a young people's access to health care can delay them from seeking earlier, safer care, thus putting their health at risk.

SB 308: Burdensome and Unnecessary Regulations on Abortion Providers

This bill is an amendment to the so-called "Woman's Right to Know" law, which already requires biased counseling and waiting periods. SB 308 would require physicians who perform abortions to have admitting privileges to a hospital within 30 miles of the place where the procedure is performed, and that the doctor providing care be physically present for the entire procedure, and remain available on-site until the patient leaves. This legislation seeks to drive doctors out of practice and make abortion care more expensive and difficult to obtain.

Legal abortion is one of the safest medical procedures in the United States, and excessive regulation of abortion providers is not intended to protect women's health nor will it have that effect. The goal and effect of this bill is simply to reduce an already limited supply of abortion providers by singling them out for medically unnecessary regulation. If this bill becomes law, NC will join the ranks of states like Mississippi and Alabama, and women will suffer.