



## ISSUE BRIEF

### Oppose HB 2960, SB 591

HB 2960 and SB 591 are not about access to reproductive care or access to abortion or birth control. These bills are about hiding from insurance policy holders--in most cases parents or spouses--payment for the kinds of activities that left-wing anti-family organizations (sex re-assignment, abortion) want to promote.

Otherwise known as the Secret Abortions bill, this legislation would prohibit insurance companies' explanation of benefits notices from being sent to policy holders if the insured accessed sensitive, "confidential" health care services. For example, a woman on her husband's insurance, or a girl on her father's insurance could use that insurance to pay for her abortion or birth control, and he could not be notified.

Advocates of the bills will argue that medical care should be kept secret from policy

holders in cases of domestic violence, however there are already protections in place in those situations, and this legislation goes far beyond them to circumstances where domestic violence is not occurring.

This legislation is designed to shield women from difficult but important conversations with parents and spouses regarding their activities, and allow abortion advocates to pressure vulnerable women into abortion by saying, "go ahead and have an abortion. Your insurance will pay for it, and your parents (or spouse) will never know." Policy holders should have a right to know what medical care they're paying for, and our government should not be weighing in to encourage secrecy within families to ease the efforts of the abortion industry to prey on vulnerable women.

#### QUICK FACTS

1. There are already protections in place for women (and men) seeking medical care due to domestic violence. This bill would encourage secrecy in situations absent any problems.
2. This legislation impacts health care of a sexual/reproductive nature, specifically geared toward hiding payments from family.
3. The judicial bypass rate for minors seeking abortion is over 95%. This bill would make the parents pay for a minor seeking abortion without their knowledge.



- In 1981, the Supreme Judicial Court ruled that the state of Massachusetts must pay for abortions through MassHealth. No woman is being denied access to abortion because she cannot pay.
- Women over 18 can pay through their insurance for an abortion regardless of parental consent. This legislation simply makes it so the insurance policy holder is kept in the dark regarding a decision that the policy holder might find morally repugnant.
- Policy holders should continue to have a right to know about medical care that they are paying for.

**VOTE NO ON HB 2960 and SB 591**