

**2010 Abortion Restriction Bill
HB 1327 (Davis) and HB 2000 (Pratt)**

FACT SHEET

HB 1327 & 2000 contains many new, burdensome, and unnecessary requirements to the informed consent procedure for abortion and creates the new crime of “coercing an abortion.” These bills intrude on the doctor/patient relationship, intrude on the parent/teen relationship, and ignore the standard practice of medical care already in place for abortion providers. *This bill is too extreme for Missouri and does nothing to reduce unintended pregnancy.*

As a trusted provider of reproductive health care, Planned Parenthood believes that every woman should have evenhanded and unbiased information so she can protect her health and make the best decision for her circumstances. A woman needs – and Missouri women get – information about the risks involved with, and alternatives to, abortion but the information should not be written to coerce, shame or pressure the woman into making a decision that is not right for her. There is simply no medical or legal reason for a doctor or counselor to tell a patient that “*the life of each human being begins at conception. Abortion will terminate the life of a separate, unique, living human being*” other than to shame and intimidate that woman.

HB 1327 & 2000 would:

- Tell women who are survivors of domestic violence that if they reveal their circumstances and seek help, they will not be able to access medical care;
- Put the state in-between parents and teens by requiring the doctor to report teens under 18 to the prosecuting attorney if they seek an abortion, regardless of whether they actually obtain it, regardless of the fact that they have written permission from the parent, and regardless of the fact that doctors and nurses are already mandated reporters if abuse is suspected;
- Prevent a woman from getting the required counseling from her own private or preferred physician by mandating she meet with "the physician who is to perform or induce the abortion" at least 24 hours before the procedure to conduct the informed consent process. It could add days or weeks to the wait for the procedure if the physician is only scheduled one day per week;
- Require abortion providers to use brochures and videos developed by state bureaucrats rather than information developed by trusted medical organizations like the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology or the American Medical Association. These brochures must prominently display the statement “*the life of each human being begins at conception. Abortion will terminate the life of a separate, unique, living human being*”;
- Create the new crime of 'coercion of an abortion' whether or not the woman actually seeks and obtains an abortion;
- Require posting of signs in abortion clinics that carry false promises of state-backed assistance in carrying a child to term and caring for that child once born, including health care, housing, transportation, food, clothing, education, and job training.

HB 1327/2000 Promotes Government Intrusion NOT Safety

Abortion is the most highly regulated medical procedure in Missouri. Under current state law, any woman seeking an abortion must go through counseling, sign a consent form stating her decision is completely free and voluntary and then wait at least 24 hours before having the procedure. This bill seeks only to place more unnecessary burdens on abortion providers and women seeking abortion and does nothing to actually prevent unintended pregnancy.