

# ACTION ALERT

January 22, 2017

Right now there are four bills (2 in the Indiana Senate and 2 in the Indiana House) that would negatively impact access to abortion in Indiana. We need League members to call or write their legislators to urge them not to support these bills.

In addition, you can also call the chair of the committees to which these bills have been sent to urge them not to hear these bills. This contact info is provided below. *NOTE: A possible script to use when calling... "I am a member of the League of Women Voters of Greater Lafayette; however I am calling as a voter. Please do not support \_\_\_\_\_.*

The League of Women Voters's position states that we "believe that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

**ATTACHED YOU WILL FIND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EACH OF THE SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE FROM OUR AREA**

Here is information on each bill (thanks to PPINK for the explanations of the bills given here):

**SB 404: ABORTION, CHILD ABUSE AND SEXUAL TRAFFICKING**

**Authors: Sen. Erin Houchin, Sen. Travis Holdman, Sen. Jeff Raatz**

**Committee: Judiciary – Chairperson is Senator Bray at [317-234-9426](tel:317-234-9426)**

**Description:**

*Requires that certain information must be provided by the parent or legal guardian of an unemancipated pregnant woman when giving written consent for the unemancipated pregnant woman to have an abortion.*

This bill could jeopardize young women's health by imposing incredibly burdensome and costly documentation requirements on minors and parents--on top of existing law requiring parental consent--that could force abortions later in pregnancy, if a young woman can access it at all. This bill could also effectively block access to the judicial bypass option for teens who need this protection and would put the health and lives of Indiana teens at risk.

**SB 118: MANDATORY ULTRASOUND BEFORE ABORTIONS**

**Author: Sen. Dennis Kruse**

**Committee: Health and Provider Services - Chairperson is Senator Charbonneau at [317-232-9494](tel:317-232-9494)**

**Description:**

*Provides that an abortion provider must do the following at least 48 hours before an abortion is performed: (1) Inform the pregnant woman of the availability of fetal ultrasound imaging and auscultation of fetal heart tone services to enable the pregnant woman to view the image and hear the heartbeat of the fetus. (2) Immediately perform the fetal ultrasound imaging*

*and allow the pregnant woman to hear the auscultation of the fetal heart tone if the fetal heart tone is audible. Requires the pregnant woman to view the fetal ultrasound imaging and listen to the auscultation of the fetal heart tone if the fetal heart tone is audible. Removes provisions allowing a pregnant woman to decline to view the fetal ultrasound imaging and hear the fetal heart tone.*

This bill would more than double the current waiting period between the time a woman provides informed consent and the abortion procedure from 18 hours to 48 hours. This bill would also require a pregnant person view their ultrasound and hear the “fetal heart tone” – with no way to opt out.

**HB 1128: INFORMED CONSENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ABORTION DRUGS**

**Authors** Rep. Ronald Bacon, Rep. Peggy Mayfield

**Committee:** Public Policy - Chairperson is Representative Smaltz at [317-232-9620](tel:317-232-9620)

**Description:**

*Requires that a pregnant woman be informed orally and in writing before a chemical abortion that the chemical abortion may be possibly arrested or reversed. Makes a technical correction.*

This bill would require informed consent before a medication abortion to include a claim that the effects of the abortion pill can potentially be reversed if a pregnant person changes their mind. Claims of medication abortion reversal are not supported by the body of scientific evidence, and this approach is not recommended in the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologist’s clinical guidance on medication abortion.

**HB 1134: PROTECTION OF LIFE**

**Author:** Curt Nisly

**Committee:** Public Policy – Chairperson is Representative Smaltz at [317-232-9620](tel:317-232-9620)

**Description:**

*Repeals the statutes authorizing and regulating abortion. Finds that human physical life begins when a human ovum is fertilized by a human sperm. Asserts a compelling state interest in protecting human physical life from the moment that human physical life begins. Redefines "human being" for purposes of the criminal code to conform to the finding that human physical life begins when a human ovum is fertilized by a human sperm.*

**This bill would ban and criminalize all abortions in Indiana. If filed and passed, this legislation would be unconstitutional and directly in opposition to the viability criteria established in Roe v. Wade.**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

STATE LEGISLATORS CONTACT AND COMMITTEE INFORMATION as of 1/20/17						
NAME	PARTY	DISTRICT	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	COMMITTEES	EMAIL
Senator Ron Alting	Republican	22	200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis 46204	800-382-9467	Public Policy (Chair), Civil Law	<a href="mailto:s22@iga.in.gov">s22@iga.in.gov</a>
Senator Brandt Hershman	Republican	7	200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis 46204	800-382-9467	Joint Rules (Chair), Tax & Fiscal Policy (Chair), Appropriations, Rules & Legislative Procedure	<a href="mailto:s7@iga.in.gov">s7@iga.in.gov</a>
Representative Shelia Klinker	Democrat	27	200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis 46204	800-382-9842	Agricultural & Rural Development, Education, Family, Children & Human Affairs, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety, Ways & Means	<a href="mailto:h27@iga.in.gov">h27@iga.in.gov</a>
Representative Sally Siegrist	Republican	26	200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis 46204	800-382-9841	Agriculture & Rural Development, Select Committee on Government Reduction, Ways & Means	<a href="mailto:h26@iga.in.gov">h26@iga.in.gov</a>
Representative Sharon Negele	Republican	13	200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis 46204	800-382-9841	Courts & Criminal Code (Vice Chair), Ways & Means	<a href="mailto:h13@iga.in.gov">h13@iga.in.gov</a>
Representative Don Lehe	Republican	25	200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis 46204	800-382-9841	Agriculture & Rural Development, Environmental Affairs, Public Health	<a href="mailto:h25@iga.in.gov">h25@iga.in.gov</a>
Representative Tim Brown	Republican	41	200 W. Washington St, Indianapolis 46204	800-382-9841	Ways & Means	<a href="mailto:h41@iga.in.gov">h41@iga.in.gov</a>
<b>NOTE:</b> For local contact info refer to the LWVGL2016 Directory of Government Officials						