



Impacting Reproductive
Care Worldwide

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House Health & Human Services Committee
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

3/28/23

Dear Chair Fine, Vice Chair Persons-Mulicka, Minority Member Skidmore, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I am writing to express strong opposition to [HB 7](#): the Pregnancy and Parenting Support Act which would curtail the reproductive rights of the residents of Florida and put Floridians and their physicians at risk.

ASRM is a multidisciplinary organization of nearly 8,000 professionals dedicated to the advancement of the art, science, and practice of reproductive medicine. Distinguished members of ASRM include obstetricians and gynecologists, urologists, reproductive endocrinologists, embryologists, mental health professionals and others.

Most people are not aware that they are pregnant by 6 weeks of gestation. When bills similar to HB 7 have passed in other states, maternal morbidity rates rose sharply in direct response. As physicians, we must be able to provide- sometimes immediately- the best course of care for each of our patients. HB 7 would endanger our ability to do so. Though the bill allows for a narrow set of emergencies and exemptions, the practice of medicine does not fit within a proscribed set of exemptions. According to this bill, Florida physicians would be forced to interpret the bill's meaning, which could restrict access to critical care for Floridian patients and lead to an exodus of expert medical care from Florida, as physicians seek states that do not penalize their practice.

In allowing the government to intervene in the sacred relationship between a patient and physician, passing HB 7 would only make access to critical reproductive care more difficult and, indeed, dangerous. For these and other reasons, I strongly urge you to oppose the passage of HB 7.

For more information, feel free to contact me or Sean Tipton, Chief Advocacy and Policy officer at Stipton@asrm.org or 202-421-5112.

Sincerely,



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