

## Impacting Reproductive Care Worldwide

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Chevis Shannon, DrPH, MPH, MBA, MERC Chief Education & Science Officer House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Room 130, State Capitol

Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Miller, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I am writing to express strong opposition to <u>SB 138</u> which would curtail the reproductive rights of the residents of Arkansas and leave many without access to vital family planning care.

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.

Arkansas already has some of the most restrictive abortion bills in the nation. By threatening the licensing of clinics and hospitals, SB 138 could push reproductive health providers and physicians from practicing in the state and deprive Arkansas families of much-needed quality healthcare.

Passing SB 138 would only make access to critical reproductive care more difficult and, indeed, dangerous. For these and other reasons, I strongly urge you to oppose its passage.

For more information, feel free to contact me or Sean Tipton, Chief Advocacy and Policy officer at <a href="Stipton@asrm.org">Stipton@asrm.org</a> or 202-421-5112.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Thomas, MD

President

American Society for Reproductive Medicine

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