
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 837 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY CAPPELLETTI, SCHWANK, STREET, MUTH, HAYWOOD,
COSTA, SAVAL, HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE, FONTANA, L. WILLIAMS,
COLLETT, COMMITTA AND KANE, JUNE 27, 2025

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JUNE 27, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses), 35 (Health and Safety)
2 and 40 (Insurance) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes,
3 in provisions relating to abortion, repealing provisions
4 relating to short title of chapter and to legislative intent,
5 further providing for definitions, repealing provisions
6 relating to medical consultation and judgment, to informed
7 consent, to parental consent, to abortion facilities, to
8 printed information, to Commonwealth interference prohibited,
9 to spousal notice, to determination of gestational age, to
10 abortion on unborn child of 24 or more weeks gestational age,
11 to infanticide, to prohibited acts and to reporting, further
12 providing for publicly owned facilities, public officials and
13 public funds and for fetal experimentation and repealing
14 provisions relating to civil penalties, to criminal
15 penalties, to State Board of Medicine and State Board of
16 Osteopathic Medicine and to construction; providing for
17 reproductive rights; repealing provisions relating to
18 compliance with Federal health care legislation as to
19 regulation of insurers and related persons generally;
20 imposing penalties; and making an editorial change.

21 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
22 hereby enacts as follows:

23 Section 1. Chapter 32 heading of Title 18 of the
24 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

25 CHAPTER 32

26 [ABORTION]

1 physicians have been allowing these children to die or have
2 been failing to induce breathing.

3 (4) Because the Commonwealth places a supreme value upon
4 protecting human life, it is necessary that those physicians
5 which it permits to practice medicine be held to precise
6 standards of care in cases where their actions do or may
7 result in the death of an unborn child.

8 (5) A reasonable waiting period, as contained in this
9 chapter, is critical to the assurance that a woman elect to
10 undergo an abortion procedure only after having the fullest
11 opportunity to give her informed consent thereto.

12 (c) Construction.--In every relevant civil or criminal
13 proceeding in which it is possible to do so without violating
14 the Federal Constitution, the common and statutory law of
15 Pennsylvania shall be construed so as to extend to the unborn
16 the equal protection of the laws and to further the public
17 policy of this Commonwealth encouraging childbirth over
18 abortion.

19 (d) Right of conscience.--It is the further public policy of
20 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to respect and protect the
21 right of conscience of all persons who refuse to obtain,
22 receive, subsidize, accept or provide abortions including those
23 persons who are engaged in the delivery of medical services and
24 medical care whether acting individually, corporately or in
25 association with other persons; and to prohibit all forms of
26 discrimination, disqualification, coercion, disability or
27 imposition of liability or financial burden upon such persons or
28 entities by reason of their refusing to act contrary to their
29 conscience or conscientious convictions in refusing to obtain,
30 receive, subsidize, accept or provide abortions.]

1 Section 3. Section 3203 of Title 18 is amended to read:

2 § 3203. Definitions.

3 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
4 shall have, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the
5 meanings given to them in this section:

6 "Abortion." [The use of any means to terminate the
7 clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman with knowledge that
8 the termination by those means will, with reasonable likelihood,
9 cause the death of the unborn child except that, for the
10 purposes of this chapter, abortion shall not mean the use of an
11 intrauterine device or birth control pill to inhibit or prevent
12 ovulation, fertilization or the implantation of a fertilized
13 ovum within the uterus.] A medical treatment intended to induce
14 the termination of a diagnosable intrauterine pregnancy for the
15 purpose other than to produce a live birth. The term does not
16 include:

17 (1) a medical treatment to remove a dead fetus or embryo
18 whose death was the result of a spontaneous abortion; or
19 (2) the use of the prescription of a drug or device that
20 prevents pregnancy.

21 "Born alive." When used with regard to a human being, means
22 that the human being was completely expelled or extracted from
23 her or his mother and after such separation breathed or showed
24 evidence of any of the following: beating of the heart,
25 pulsation of the umbilical cord, definite movement of voluntary
26 muscles or any brain-wave activity.

27 ["Complication." Includes but is not limited to hemorrhage,
28 infection, uterine perforation, cervical laceration and retained
29 products. The department may further define complication.

30 "Conscience." A sincerely held set of moral convictions

1 arising from belief in and relation to a deity or which, though
2 not so derived, obtains from a place in the life of its
3 possessor parallel to that filled by a deity among adherents to
4 religious faiths.]

5 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth
6 of Pennsylvania.

7 ["Facility" or "medical facility." Any public or private
8 hospital, clinic, center, medical school, medical training
9 institution, health care facility, physician's office,
10 infirmary, dispensary, ambulatory surgical treatment center or
11 other institution or location wherein medical care is provided
12 to any person.]

13 "Fertilization" and "conception." Each term shall mean the
14 fusion of a human spermatozoon with a human ovum.

15 "Fetus." A fertilized human embryo or fetus developing after
16 implantation in a human uterus until birth.

17 ["First trimester." The first 12 weeks of gestation.

18 "Gestational age." The age of the unborn child as calculated
19 from the first day of the last menstrual period of the pregnant
20 woman.

21 "Hospital." An institution licensed pursuant to the
22 provisions of the law of this Commonwealth.

23 "In vitro fertilization." The purposeful fertilization of a
24 human ovum outside the body of a living human female.

25 "Medical emergency." That condition which, on the basis of
26 the physician's good faith clinical judgment, so complicates the
27 medical condition of a pregnant woman as to necessitate the
28 immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert her death or for
29 which a delay will create serious risk of substantial and
30 irreversible impairment of major bodily function.

1 "Medical personnel." Any nurse, nurse's aide, medical school
2 student, professional or any other person who furnishes, or
3 assists in the furnishing of, medical care.

4 "Physician." Any person licensed to practice medicine in
5 this Commonwealth. The term includes medical doctors and doctors
6 of osteopathy.

7 "Pregnancy" and "pregnant." Each term shall mean that female
8 reproductive condition of having a developing fetus in the body
9 and commences with fertilization.

10 "Probable gestational age of the unborn child." What, in the
11 judgment of the attending physician, will with reasonable
12 probability be the gestational age of the unborn child at the
13 time the abortion is planned to be performed.

14 "Unborn child" and "fetus." Each term shall mean an
15 individual organism of the species homo sapiens from
16 fertilization until live birth.

17 "Viability." That stage of fetal development when, in the
18 judgment of the physician based on the particular facts of the
19 case before him and in light of the most advanced medical
20 technology and information available to him, there is a
21 reasonable likelihood of sustained survival of the unborn child
22 outside the body of his or her mother, with or without
23 artificial support.]

24 Section 4. Sections 3204, 3205, 3206, 3207, 3208, 3208.1,
25 3209, 3210, 3211, 3212, 3213 and 3214 of Title 18 are repealed:

26 [§ 3204. Medical consultation and judgment.

27 (a) Abortion prohibited; exceptions.--No abortion shall be
28 performed except by a physician after either:

29 (1) he determines that, in his best clinical judgment,
30 the abortion is necessary; or

1 (2) he receives what he reasonably believes to be a
2 written statement signed by another physician, hereinafter
3 called the "referring physician," certifying that in this
4 referring physician's best clinical judgment the abortion is
5 necessary.

6 (b) Requirements.--Except in a medical emergency where there
7 is insufficient time before the abortion is performed, the woman
8 upon whom the abortion is to be performed shall have a private
9 medical consultation either with the physician who is to perform
10 the abortion or with the referring physician. The consultation
11 will be in a place, at a time and of a duration reasonably
12 sufficient to enable the physician to determine whether, based
13 on his best clinical judgment, the abortion is necessary.

14 (c) Factors.--In determining in accordance with subsection
15 (a) or (b) whether an abortion is necessary, a physician's best
16 clinical judgment may be exercised in the light of all factors
17 (physical, emotional, psychological, familial and the woman's
18 age) relevant to the well-being of the woman. No abortion which
19 is sought solely because of the sex of the unborn child shall be
20 deemed a necessary abortion.

21 (d) Penalty.--Any person who intentionally, knowingly or
22 recklessly violates the provisions of this section commits a
23 felony of the third degree, and any physician who violates the
24 provisions of this section is guilty of "unprofessional conduct"
25 and his license for the practice of medicine and surgery shall
26 be subject to suspension or revocation in accordance with
27 procedures provided under the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109,
28 No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, the act
29 of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical
30 Practice Act of 1985, or their successor acts.

1 § 3205. Informed consent.

2 (a) General rule.--No abortion shall be performed or induced
3 except with the voluntary and informed consent of the woman upon
4 whom the abortion is to be performed or induced. Except in the
5 case of a medical emergency, consent to an abortion is voluntary
6 and informed if and only if:

7 (1) At least 24 hours prior to the abortion, the
8 physician who is to perform the abortion or the referring
9 physician has orally informed the woman of:

10 (i) The nature of the proposed procedure or
11 treatment and of those risks and alternatives to the
12 procedure or treatment that a reasonable patient would
13 consider material to the decision of whether or not to
14 undergo the abortion.

15 (ii) The probable gestational age of the unborn
16 child at the time the abortion is to be performed.

17 (iii) The medical risks associated with carrying her
18 child to term.

19 (2) At least 24 hours prior to the abortion, the
20 physician who is to perform the abortion or the referring
21 physician, or a qualified physician assistant, health care
22 practitioner, technician or social worker to whom the
23 responsibility has been delegated by either physician, has
24 informed the pregnant woman that:

25 (i) The department publishes printed materials which
26 describe the unborn child and list agencies which offer
27 alternatives to abortion and that she has a right to
28 review the printed materials and that a copy will be
29 provided to her free of charge if she chooses to review
30 it.

1 (ii) Medical assistance benefits may be available
2 for prenatal care, childbirth and neonatal care, and that
3 more detailed information on the availability of such
4 assistance is contained in the printed materials
5 published by the department.

6 (iii) The father of the unborn child is liable to
7 assist in the support of her child, even in instances
8 where he has offered to pay for the abortion. In the case
9 of rape, this information may be omitted.

10 (3) A copy of the printed materials has been provided to
11 the pregnant woman if she chooses to view these materials.

12 (4) The pregnant woman certifies in writing, prior to
13 the abortion, that the information required to be provided
14 under paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) has been provided.

15 (b) Emergency.--Where a medical emergency compels the
16 performance of an abortion, the physician shall inform the
17 woman, prior to the abortion if possible, of the medical
18 indications supporting his judgment that an abortion is
19 necessary to avert her death or to avert substantial and
20 irreversible impairment of major bodily function.

21 (c) Penalty.--Any physician who violates the provisions of
22 this section is guilty of "unprofessional conduct" and his
23 license for the practice of medicine and surgery shall be
24 subject to suspension or revocation in accordance with
25 procedures provided under the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109,
26 No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, the act
27 of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical
28 Practice Act of 1985, or their successor acts. Any physician who
29 performs or induces an abortion without first obtaining the
30 certification required by subsection (a) (4) or with knowledge or

1 reason to know that the informed consent of the woman has not
2 been obtained shall for the first offense be guilty of a summary
3 offense and for each subsequent offense be guilty of a
4 misdemeanor of the third degree. No physician shall be guilty of
5 violating this section for failure to furnish the information
6 required by subsection (a) if he or she can demonstrate, by a
7 preponderance of the evidence, that he or she reasonably
8 believed that furnishing the information would have resulted in
9 a severely adverse effect on the physical or mental health of
10 the patient.

11 (d) Limitation on civil liability.--Any physician who
12 complies with the provisions of this section may not be held
13 civilly liable to his patient for failure to obtain informed
14 consent to the abortion within the meaning of that term as
15 defined by the act of October 15, 1975 (P.L.390, No.111), known
16 as the Health Care Services Malpractice Act.

17 § 3206. Parental consent.

18 (a) General rule.--Except in the case of a medical
19 emergency, or except as provided in this section, if a pregnant
20 woman is less than 18 years of age and not emancipated, or if
21 she has been adjudged an incapacitated person under 20 Pa.C.S. §
22 5511 (relating to petition and hearing; independent evaluation),
23 a physician shall not perform an abortion upon her unless, in
24 the case of a woman who is less than 18 years of age, he first
25 obtains the informed consent both of the pregnant woman and of
26 one of her parents; or, in the case of a woman who is an
27 incapacitated person, he first obtains the informed consent of
28 her guardian. In deciding whether to grant such consent, a
29 pregnant woman's parent or guardian shall consider only their
30 child's or ward's best interests. In the case of a pregnancy

1 that is the result of incest where the father is a party to the
2 incestuous act, the pregnant woman need only obtain the consent
3 of her mother.

4 (b) Unavailability of parent or guardian.--If both parents
5 have died or are otherwise unavailable to the physician within a
6 reasonable time and in a reasonable manner, consent of the
7 pregnant woman's guardian or guardians shall be sufficient. If
8 the pregnant woman's parents are divorced, consent of the parent
9 having custody shall be sufficient. If neither any parent nor a
10 legal guardian is available to the physician within a reasonable
11 time and in a reasonable manner, consent of any adult person
12 standing in loco parentis shall be sufficient.

13 (c) Petition to court for consent.--If both of the parents
14 or guardians of the pregnant woman refuse to consent to the
15 performance of an abortion or if she elects not to seek the
16 consent of either of her parents or of her guardian, the court
17 of common pleas of the judicial district in which the applicant
18 resides or in which the abortion is sought shall, upon petition
19 or motion, after an appropriate hearing, authorize a physician
20 to perform the abortion if the court determines that the
21 pregnant woman is mature and capable of giving informed consent
22 to the proposed abortion, and has, in fact, given such consent.

23 (d) Court order.--If the court determines that the pregnant
24 woman is not mature and capable of giving informed consent or if
25 the pregnant woman does not claim to be mature and capable of
26 giving informed consent, the court shall determine whether the
27 performance of an abortion upon her would be in her best
28 interests. If the court determines that the performance of an
29 abortion would be in the best interests of the woman, it shall
30 authorize a physician to perform the abortion.

1 (e) Representation in proceedings.--The pregnant woman may
2 participate in proceedings in the court on her own behalf and
3 the court may appoint a guardian ad litem to assist her. The
4 court shall, however, advise her that she has a right to court
5 appointed counsel, and shall provide her with such counsel
6 unless she wishes to appear with private counsel or has
7 knowingly and intelligently waived representation by counsel.

8 (f) Proceedings.--

9 (1) Court proceedings under this section shall be
10 confidential and shall be given such precedence over other
11 pending matters as will ensure that the court may reach a
12 decision promptly and without delay in order to serve the
13 best interests of the pregnant woman. In no case shall the
14 court of common pleas fail to rule within three business days
15 of the date of application. A court of common pleas which
16 conducts proceedings under this section shall make in writing
17 specific factual findings and legal conclusions supporting
18 its decision and shall, upon the initial filing of the
19 minor's petition for judicial authorization of an abortion,
20 order a sealed record of the petition, pleadings,
21 submissions, transcripts, exhibits, orders, evidence and any
22 other written material to be maintained which shall include
23 its own findings and conclusions.

24 (2) The application to the court of common pleas shall
25 be accompanied by a non-notarized verification stating that
26 the information therein is true and correct to the best of
27 the applicant's knowledge, and the application shall set
28 forth the following facts:

29 (i) The initials of the pregnant woman.

30 (ii) The age of the pregnant woman.

1 (iii) The names and addresses of each parent,
2 guardian or, if the minor's parents are deceased and no
3 guardian has been appointed, any other person standing in
4 loco parentis to the minor.

5 (iv) That the pregnant woman has been fully informed
6 of the risks and consequences of the abortion.

7 (v) Whether the pregnant woman is of sound mind and
8 has sufficient intellectual capacity to consent to the
9 abortion.

10 (vi) A prayer for relief asking the court to either
11 grant the pregnant woman full capacity for the purpose of
12 personal consent to the abortion, or to give judicial
13 consent to the abortion under subsection (d) based upon a
14 finding that the abortion is in the best interest of the
15 pregnant woman.

16 (vii) That the pregnant woman is aware that any
17 false statements made in the application are punishable
18 by law.

19 (viii) The signature of the pregnant woman. Where
20 necessary to serve the interest of justice, the orphans'
21 court division, or, in Philadelphia, the family court
22 division, shall refer the pregnant woman to the
23 appropriate personnel for assistance in preparing the
24 application.

25 (3) The name of the pregnant woman shall not be entered
26 on any docket which is subject to public inspection. All
27 persons shall be excluded from hearings under this section
28 except the applicant and such other persons whose presence is
29 specifically requested by the applicant or her guardian.

30 (4) At the hearing, the court shall hear evidence

1 relating to the emotional development, maturity, intellect
2 and understanding of the pregnant woman, the fact and
3 duration of her pregnancy, the nature, possible consequences
4 and alternatives to the abortion and any other evidence that
5 the court may find useful in determining whether the pregnant
6 woman should be granted full capacity for the purpose of
7 consenting to the abortion or whether the abortion is in the
8 best interest of the pregnant woman. The court shall also
9 notify the pregnant woman at the hearing that it must rule on
10 her application within three business days of the date of its
11 filing and that, should the court fail to rule in favor of
12 her application within the allotted time, she has the right
13 to appeal to the Superior Court.

14 (g) Coercion prohibited.--Except in a medical emergency, no
15 parent, guardian or other person standing in loco parentis shall
16 coerce a minor or incapacitated woman to undergo an abortion.
17 Any minor or incapacitated woman who is threatened with such
18 coercion may apply to a court of common pleas for relief. The
19 court shall provide the minor or incapacitated woman with
20 counsel, give the matter expedited consideration and grant such
21 relief as may be necessary to prevent such coercion. Should a
22 minor be denied the financial support of her parents by reason
23 of her refusal to undergo abortion, she shall be considered
24 emancipated for purposes of eligibility for assistance benefits.

25 (h) Regulation of proceedings.--No filing fees shall be
26 required of any woman availing herself of the procedures
27 provided by this section. An expedited confidential appeal shall
28 be available to any pregnant woman whom the court fails to grant
29 an order authorizing an abortion within the time specified in
30 this section. Any court to which an appeal is taken under this

1 section shall give prompt and confidential attention thereto and
2 shall rule thereon within five business days of the filing of
3 the appeal. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania may issue such
4 rules as may further assure that the process provided in this
5 section is conducted in such a manner as will ensure
6 confidentiality and sufficient precedence over other pending
7 matters to ensure promptness of disposition.

8 (i) Penalty.--Any person who performs an abortion upon a
9 woman who is an unemancipated minor or incapacitated person to
10 whom this section applies either with knowledge that she is a
11 minor or incapacitated person to whom this section applies, or
12 with reckless disregard or negligence as to whether she is a
13 minor or incapacitated person to whom this section applies, and
14 who intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to conform to
15 any requirement of this section is guilty of "unprofessional
16 conduct" and his license for the practice of medicine and
17 surgery shall be suspended in accordance with procedures
18 provided under the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261),
19 known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, the act of
20 December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical
21 Practice Act of 1985, or their successor acts, for a period of
22 at least three months. Failure to comply with the requirements
23 of this section is prima facie evidence of failure to obtain
24 informed consent and of interference with family relations in
25 appropriate civil actions. The law of this Commonwealth shall
26 not be construed to preclude the award of exemplary damages or
27 damages for emotional distress even if unaccompanied by physical
28 complications in any appropriate civil action relevant to
29 violations of this section. Nothing in this section shall be
30 construed to limit the common law rights of parents.

1 § 3207. Abortion facilities.

2 (a) Regulations.--The department shall have power to make
3 rules and regulations pursuant to this chapter, with respect to
4 performance of abortions and with respect to facilities in which
5 abortions are performed, so as to protect the health and safety
6 of women having abortions and of premature infants aborted
7 alive. These rules and regulations shall include, but not be
8 limited to, procedures, staff, equipment and laboratory testing
9 requirements for all facilities offering abortion services.

10 (b) Reports.--Within 30 days after the effective date of
11 this chapter, every facility at which abortions are performed
12 shall file, and update immediately upon any change, a report
13 with the department, containing the following information:

14 (1) Name and address of the facility.

15 (2) Name and address of any parent, subsidiary or
16 affiliated organizations, corporations or associations.

17 (3) Name and address of any parent, subsidiary or
18 affiliated organizations, corporations or associations having
19 contemporaneous commonality of ownership, beneficial
20 interest, directorship or officership with any other
21 facility.

22 The information contained in those reports which are filed
23 pursuant to this subsection by facilities which receive State-
24 appropriated funds during the 12-calendar-month period
25 immediately preceding a request to inspect or copy such reports
26 shall be deemed public information. Reports filed by facilities
27 which do not receive State-appropriated funds shall only be
28 available to law enforcement officials, the State Board of
29 Medicine and the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine for use in
30 the performance of their official duties. Any facility failing

1 to comply with the provisions of this subsection shall be
2 assessed by the department a fine of \$500 for each day it is in
3 violation hereof.

4 § 3208. Printed information.

5 (a) General rule.--The department shall cause to be
6 published in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, within 60 days
7 after this chapter becomes law, and shall update on an annual
8 basis, the following easily comprehensible printed materials:

9 (1) Geographically indexed materials designed to inform
10 the woman of public and private agencies and services
11 available to assist a woman through pregnancy, upon
12 childbirth and while the child is dependent, including
13 adoption agencies, which shall include a comprehensive list
14 of the agencies available, a description of the services they
15 offer and a description of the manner, including telephone
16 numbers, in which they might be contacted, or, at the option
17 of the department, printed materials including a toll-free,
18 24-hour a day telephone number which may be called to obtain,
19 orally, such a list and description of agencies in the
20 locality of the caller and of the services they offer. The
21 materials shall provide information on the availability of
22 medical assistance benefits for prenatal care, childbirth and
23 neonatal care, and state that it is unlawful for any
24 individual to coerce a woman to undergo abortion, that any
25 physician who performs an abortion upon a woman without
26 obtaining her informed consent or without according her a
27 private medical consultation may be liable to her for damages
28 in a civil action at law, that the father of a child is
29 liable to assist in the support of that child, even in
30 instances where the father has offered to pay for an abortion

1 and that the law permits adoptive parents to pay costs of
2 prenatal care, childbirth and neonatal care.

3 (2) Materials designed to inform the woman of the
4 probable anatomical and physiological characteristics of the
5 unborn child at two-week gestational increments from
6 fertilization to full term, including pictures representing
7 the development of unborn children at two-week gestational
8 increments, and any relevant information on the possibility
9 of the unborn child's survival; provided that any such
10 pictures or drawings must contain the dimensions of the fetus
11 and must be realistic and appropriate for the woman's stage
12 of pregnancy. The materials shall be objective, nonjudgmental
13 and designed to convey only accurate scientific information
14 about the unborn child at the various gestational ages. The
15 material shall also contain objective information describing
16 the methods of abortion procedures commonly employed, the
17 medical risks commonly associated with each such procedure,
18 the possible detrimental psychological effects of abortion
19 and the medical risks commonly associated with each such
20 procedure and the medical risks commonly associated with
21 carrying a child to term.

22 (b) Format.--The materials shall be printed in a typeface
23 large enough to be clearly legible.

24 (c) Free distribution.--The materials required under this
25 section shall be available at no cost from the department upon
26 request and in appropriate number to any person, facility or
27 hospital.

28 § 3208.1. Commonwealth interference prohibited.

29 The Commonwealth shall not interfere with the use of
30 medically appropriate methods of contraception or the manner in

1 which medically appropriate methods of contraception are
2 provided.

3 § 3209. Spousal notice.

4 (a) Spousal notice required.--In order to further the
5 Commonwealth's interest in promoting the integrity of the
6 marital relationship and to protect a spouse's interests in
7 having children within marriage and in protecting the prenatal
8 life of that spouse's child, no physician shall perform an
9 abortion on a married woman, except as provided in subsections
10 (b) and (c), unless he or she has received a signed statement,
11 which need not be notarized, from the woman upon whom the
12 abortion is to be performed, that she has notified her spouse
13 that she is about to undergo an abortion. The statement shall
14 bear a notice that any false statement made therein is
15 punishable by law.

16 (b) Exceptions.--The statement certifying that the notice
17 required by subsection (a) has been given need not be furnished
18 where the woman provides the physician a signed statement
19 certifying at least one of the following:

20 (1) Her spouse is not the father of the child.

21 (2) Her spouse, after diligent effort, could not be
22 located.

23 (3) The pregnancy is a result of spousal sexual assault
24 as described in section 3128 (relating to spousal sexual
25 assault), which has been reported to a law enforcement agency
26 having the requisite jurisdiction.

27 (4) The woman has reason to believe that the furnishing
28 of notice to her spouse is likely to result in the infliction
29 of bodily injury upon her by her spouse or by another
30 individual.

1 Such statement need not be notarized, but shall bear a notice
2 that any false statements made therein are punishable by law.

3 (c) Medical emergency.--The requirements of subsection (a)
4 shall not apply in case of a medical emergency.

5 (d) Forms.--The department shall cause to be published forms
6 which may be utilized for purposes of providing the signed
7 statements required by subsections (a) and (b). The department
8 shall distribute an adequate supply of such forms to all
9 abortion facilities in this Commonwealth.

10 (e) Penalty; civil action.--Any physician who violates the
11 provisions of this section is guilty of "unprofessional
12 conduct," and his or her license for the practice of medicine
13 and surgery shall be subject to suspension or revocation in
14 accordance with procedures provided under the act of October 5,
15 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical
16 Practice Act, the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112),
17 known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, or their successor
18 acts. In addition, any physician who knowingly violates the
19 provisions of this section shall be civilly liable to the spouse
20 who is the father of the aborted child for any damages caused
21 thereby and for punitive damages in the amount of \$5,000, and
22 the court shall award a prevailing plaintiff a reasonable
23 attorney fee as part of costs.

24 § 3210. Determination of gestational age.

25 (a) Requirement.--Except in the case of a medical emergency
26 which prevents compliance with this section, no abortion shall
27 be performed or induced unless the referring physician or the
28 physician performing or inducing it has first made a
29 determination of the probable gestational age of the unborn
30 child. In making such determination, the physician shall make

1 such inquiries of the patient and perform or cause to be
2 performed such medical examinations and tests as a prudent
3 physician would consider necessary to make or perform in making
4 an accurate diagnosis with respect to gestational age. The
5 physician who performs or induces the abortion shall report the
6 type of inquiries made and the type of examinations and tests
7 utilized to determine the gestational age of the unborn child
8 and the basis for the diagnosis with respect to gestational age
9 on forms provided by the department.

10 (b) Penalty.--Failure of any physician to conform to any
11 requirement of this section constitutes "unprofessional conduct"
12 within the meaning of the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109,
13 No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, the act
14 of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical
15 Practice Act of 1985, or their successor acts. Upon a finding by
16 the State Board of Medicine or the State Board of Osteopathic
17 Medicine that any physician has failed to conform to any
18 requirement of this section, the board shall not fail to suspend
19 that physician's license for a period of at least three months.
20 Intentional, knowing or reckless falsification of any report
21 required under this section is a misdemeanor of the third
22 degree.

23 § 3211. Abortion on unborn child of 24 or more weeks
24 gestational age.

25 (a) Prohibition.--Except as provided in subsection (b), no
26 person shall perform or induce an abortion upon another person
27 when the gestational age of the unborn child is 24 or more
28 weeks.

29 (b) Exceptions.--

30 (1) It shall not be a violation of subsection (a) if an

1 abortion is performed by a physician and that physician
2 reasonably believes that it is necessary to prevent either
3 the death of the pregnant woman or the substantial and
4 irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the
5 woman. No abortion shall be deemed authorized under this
6 paragraph if performed on the basis of a claim or a diagnosis
7 that the woman will engage in conduct which would result in
8 her death or in substantial and irreversible impairment of a
9 major bodily function.

10 (2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (a) if the
11 abortion is performed by a physician and that physician
12 reasonably believes, after making a determination of the
13 gestational age of the unborn child in compliance with
14 section 3210 (relating to determination of gestational age),
15 that the unborn child is less than 24 weeks gestational age.

16 (c) Abortion regulated.--Except in the case of a medical
17 emergency which, in the reasonable medical judgment of the
18 physician performing the abortion, prevents compliance with a
19 particular requirement of this subsection, no abortion which is
20 authorized under subsection (b)(1) shall be performed unless
21 each of the following conditions is met:

22 (1) The physician performing the abortion certifies in
23 writing that, based upon his medical examination of the
24 pregnant woman and his medical judgment, the abortion is
25 necessary to prevent either the death of the pregnant woman
26 or the substantial and irreversible impairment of a major
27 bodily function of the woman.

28 (2) Such physician's judgment with respect to the
29 necessity for the abortion has been concurred in by one other
30 licensed physician who certifies in writing that, based upon

1 his or her separate personal medical examination of the
2 pregnant woman and his or her medical judgment, the abortion
3 is necessary to prevent either the death of the pregnant
4 woman or the substantial and irreversible impairment of a
5 major bodily function of the woman.

6 (3) The abortion is performed in a hospital.

7 (4) The physician terminates the pregnancy in a manner
8 which provides the best opportunity for the unborn child to
9 survive, unless the physician determines, in his or her good
10 faith medical judgment, that termination of the pregnancy in
11 that manner poses a significantly greater risk either of the
12 death of the pregnant woman or the substantial and
13 irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the
14 woman than would other available methods.

15 (5) The physician performing the abortion arranges for
16 the attendance, in the same room in which the abortion is to
17 be completed, of a second physician who shall take control of
18 the child immediately after complete extraction from the
19 mother and shall provide immediate medical care for the
20 child, taking all reasonable steps necessary to preserve the
21 child's life and health.

22 (d) Penalty.--Any person who violates subsection (a) commits
23 a felony of the third degree. Any person who violates subsection
24 (c) commits a misdemeanor of the second degree for the first
25 offense and a misdemeanor of the first degree for subsequent
26 offenses.

27 § 3212. Infanticide.

28 (a) Status of fetus.--The law of this Commonwealth shall not
29 be construed to imply that any human being born alive in the
30 course of or as a result of an abortion or pregnancy

1 termination, no matter what may be that human being's chance of
2 survival, is not a person under the Constitution and laws of
3 this Commonwealth.

4 (b) Care required.--All physicians and licensed medical
5 personnel attending a child who is born alive during the course
6 of an abortion or premature delivery, or after being carried to
7 term, shall provide such child that type and degree of care and
8 treatment which, in the good faith judgment of the physician, is
9 commonly and customarily provided to any other person under
10 similar conditions and circumstances. Any individual who
11 intentionally, knowingly or recklessly violates the provisions
12 of this subsection commits a felony of the third degree.

13 (c) Obligation of physician.--Whenever the physician or any
14 other person is prevented by lack of parental or guardian
15 consent from fulfilling his obligations under subsection (b), he
16 shall nonetheless fulfill said obligations and immediately
17 notify the juvenile court of the facts of the case. The juvenile
18 court shall immediately institute an inquiry and, if it finds
19 that the lack of parental or guardian consent is preventing
20 treatment required under subsection (b), it shall immediately
21 grant injunctive relief to require such treatment.

22 § 3213. Prohibited acts.

23 (a) Payment for abortion.--Except in the case of a pregnancy
24 which is not yet clinically diagnosable, any person who intends
25 to perform or induce abortion shall, before accepting payment
26 therefor, make or obtain a determination that the woman is
27 pregnant. Any person who intentionally or knowingly accepts such
28 a payment without first making or obtaining such a determination
29 commits a misdemeanor of the second degree. Any person who makes
30 such a determination erroneously either knowing that it is

1 erroneous or with reckless disregard or negligence as to whether
2 it is erroneous, and who either:

3 (1) thereupon or thereafter intentionally relies upon
4 that determination in soliciting or obtaining any such
5 payment; or

6 (2) intentionally conveys that determination to any
7 person or persons with knowledge that, or with reckless
8 disregard as to whether, that determination will be relied
9 upon in any solicitation or obtaining of any such payment;
10 commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.

11 (b) Referral fee.--The payment or receipt of a referral fee
12 in connection with the performance of an abortion is a
13 misdemeanor of the first degree. For purposes of this section,
14 "referral fee" means the transfer of anything of value between a
15 physician who performs an abortion or an operator or employee of
16 a clinic at which an abortion is performed and the person who
17 advised the woman receiving the abortion to use the services of
18 that physician or clinic.

19 (c) Regulations.--The department shall issue regulations to
20 assure that prior to the performance of any abortion, including
21 abortions performed in the first trimester of pregnancy, the
22 maternal Rh status shall be determined and that anti-Rh
23 sensitization prophylaxis shall be provided to each patient at
24 risk of sensitization unless the patient refuses to accept the
25 treatment. Except when there exists a medical emergency or, in
26 the judgment of the physician, there exists no possibility of Rh
27 sensitization, the intentional, knowing, or reckless failure to
28 conform to the regulations issued pursuant to this subsection
29 constitutes "unprofessional conduct" and his license for the
30 practice of medicine and surgery shall be subject to suspension

1 or revocation in accordance with procedures provided under the
2 act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the
3 Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, the act of December 20, 1985
4 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, or
5 their successor acts.

6 (d) Participation in abortion.--Except for a facility
7 devoted exclusively to the performance of abortions, no medical
8 personnel or medical facility, nor any employee, agent or
9 student thereof, shall be required against his or its conscience
10 to aid, abet or facilitate performance of an abortion or
11 dispensing of an abortifacient and failure or refusal to do so
12 shall not be a basis for any civil, criminal, administrative or
13 disciplinary action, penalty or proceeding, nor may it be the
14 basis for refusing to hire or admit anyone. Nothing herein shall
15 be construed to limit the provisions of the act of October 27,
16 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), known as the "Pennsylvania Human
17 Relations Act." Any person who knowingly violates the provisions
18 of this subsection shall be civilly liable to the person thereby
19 injured and, in addition, shall be liable to that person for
20 punitive damages in the amount of \$5,000.

21 (e) In vitro fertilization.--All persons conducting, or
22 experimenting in, in vitro fertilization shall file quarterly
23 reports with the department, which shall be available for public
24 inspection and copying, containing the following information:

25 (1) Names of all persons conducting or assisting in the
26 fertilization or experimentation process.

27 (2) Locations where the fertilization or experimentation
28 is conducted.

29 (3) Name and address of any person, facility, agency or
30 organization sponsoring the fertilization or experimentation

1 except that names of any persons who are donors or recipients
2 of sperm or eggs shall not be disclosed.

3 (4) Number of eggs fertilized.

4 (5) Number of fertilized eggs destroyed or discarded.

5 (6) Number of women implanted with a fertilized egg.

6 Any person required under this subsection to file a report, keep
7 records or supply information, who willfully fails to file such
8 report, keep records or supply such information or who submits a
9 false report shall be assessed a fine by the department in the
10 amount of \$50 for each day in which that person is in violation
11 hereof.

12 (f) Notice.--

13 (1) Except for a facility devoted exclusively to the
14 performance of abortions, every facility performing abortions
15 shall prominently post a notice, not less than eight and one-
16 half inches by eleven inches in size, entitled "Right of
17 Conscience," for the exclusive purpose of informing medical
18 personnel, employees, agents and students of such facilities
19 of their rights under subsection (d) and under section 5.2 of
20 the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. The facility shall post
21 the notice required by this subsection in a location or
22 locations where notices to employees, medical personnel and
23 students are normally posted or, if notices are not normally
24 posted, in a location or locations where the notice required
25 by this subsection is likely to be seen by medical personnel,
26 employees or students of the facility. The department shall
27 prescribe a model notice which may be used by any facility,
28 and any facility which utilizes the model notice or
29 substantially similar language shall be deemed in compliance
30 with this subsection.

1 (2) The department shall have the authority to assess a
2 civil penalty of up to \$5,000 against any facility for each
3 violation of this subsection, giving due consideration to the
4 appropriateness of the penalty with respect to the size of
5 the facility, the gravity of the violation, the good faith of
6 the facility and the history of previous violations. Civil
7 penalties due under this subsection shall be paid to the
8 department for deposit in the State Treasury and may be
9 collected by the department in the appropriate court of
10 common pleas. The department shall send a copy of its model
11 notice to every facility which files a report under section
12 3207(b) (relating to abortion facilities). Failure to receive
13 a notice shall not be a defense to any civil action brought
14 pursuant to this subsection.

15 § 3214. Reporting.

16 (a) General rule.--For the purpose of promotion of maternal
17 health and life by adding to the sum of medical and public
18 health knowledge through the compilation of relevant data, and
19 to promote the Commonwealth's interest in protection of the
20 unborn child, a report of each abortion performed shall be made
21 to the department on forms prescribed by it. The report forms
22 shall not identify the individual patient by name and shall
23 include the following information:

24 (1) Identification of the physician who performed the
25 abortion, the concurring physician as required by section
26 3211(c) (2) (relating to abortion on unborn child of 24 or
27 more weeks gestational age), the second physician as required
28 by section 3211(c) (5) and the facility where the abortion was
29 performed and of the referring physician, agency or service,
30 if any.

1 (2) The county and state in which the woman resides.

2 (3) The woman's age.

3 (4) The number of prior pregnancies and prior abortions
4 of the woman.

5 (5) The gestational age of the unborn child at the time
6 of the abortion.

7 (6) The type of procedure performed or prescribed and
8 the date of the abortion.

9 (7) Pre-existing medical conditions of the woman which
10 would complicate pregnancy, if any, and, if known, any
11 medical complication which resulted from the abortion itself.

12 (8) The basis for the medical judgment of the physician
13 who performed the abortion that the abortion was necessary to
14 prevent either the death of the pregnant woman or the
15 substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily
16 function of the woman, where an abortion has been performed
17 pursuant to section 3211(b)(1).

18 (9) The weight of the aborted child for any abortion
19 performed pursuant to section 3211(b)(1).

20 (10) Basis for any medical judgment that a medical
21 emergency existed which excused the physician from compliance
22 with any provision of this chapter.

23 (11) The information required to be reported under
24 section 3210(a) (relating to determination of gestational
25 age).

26 (12) Whether the abortion was performed upon a married
27 woman and, if so, whether notice to her spouse was given. If
28 no notice to her spouse was given, the report shall also
29 indicate the reason for failure to provide notice.

30 (b) Completion of report.--The reports shall be completed by

1 the hospital or other licensed facility, signed by the physician
2 who performed the abortion and transmitted to the department
3 within 15 days after each reporting month.

4 (c) Pathological examinations.--When there is an abortion
5 performed during the first trimester of pregnancy, the tissue
6 that is removed shall be subjected to a gross or microscopic
7 examination, as needed, by the physician or a qualified person
8 designated by the physician to determine if a pregnancy existed
9 and was terminated. If the examination indicates no fetal
10 remains, that information shall immediately be made known to the
11 physician and sent to the department within 15 days of the
12 analysis. When there is an abortion performed after the first
13 trimester of pregnancy where the physician has certified the
14 unborn child is not viable, the dead unborn child and all tissue
15 removed at the time of the abortion shall be submitted for
16 tissue analysis to a board eligible or certified pathologist. If
17 the report reveals evidence of viability or live birth, the
18 pathologist shall report such findings to the department within
19 15 days and a copy of the report shall also be sent to the
20 physician performing the abortion. Intentional, knowing,
21 reckless or negligent failure of the physician to submit such an
22 unborn child or such tissue remains to such a pathologist for
23 such a purpose, or intentional, knowing or reckless failure of
24 the pathologist to report any evidence of live birth or
25 viability to the department in the manner and within the time
26 prescribed is a misdemeanor of the third degree.

27 (d) Form.--The department shall prescribe a form on which
28 pathologists may report any evidence of absence of pregnancy,
29 live birth or viability.

30 (e) Statistical reports; public availability of reports.--

1 (1) The department shall prepare a comprehensive annual
2 statistical report for the General Assembly based upon the
3 data gathered under subsections (a) and (h). Such report
4 shall not lead to the disclosure of the identity of any
5 person filing a report or about whom a report is filed, and
6 shall be available for public inspection and copying.

7 (2) Reports filed pursuant to subsection (a) or (h)
8 shall not be deemed public records within the meaning of that
9 term as defined by the act of June 21, 1957 (P.L.390,
10 No.212), referred to as the Right-to-Know Law, and shall
11 remain confidential, except that disclosure may be made to
12 law enforcement officials upon an order of a court of common
13 pleas after application showing good cause therefor. The
14 court may condition disclosure of the information upon any
15 appropriate safeguards it may impose.

16 (3) Original copies of all reports filed under
17 subsections (a), (f) and (h) shall be available to the State
18 Board of Medicine and the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine
19 for use in the performance of their official duties.

20 (4) Any person who willfully discloses any information
21 obtained from reports filed pursuant to subsection (a) or
22 (h), other than that disclosure authorized under paragraph
23 (1), (2) or (3) hereof or as otherwise authorized by law,
24 shall commit a misdemeanor of the third degree.

25 (f) Report by facility.--Every facility in which an abortion
26 is performed within this Commonwealth during any quarter year
27 shall file with the department a report showing the total number
28 of abortions performed within the hospital or other facility
29 during that quarter year. This report shall also show the total
30 abortions performed in each trimester of pregnancy. Any report

1 shall be available for public inspection and copying only if the
2 facility receives State-appropriated funds within the 12-
3 calendar-month period immediately preceding the filing of the
4 report. These reports shall be submitted on a form prescribed by
5 the department which will enable a facility to indicate whether
6 or not it is receiving State-appropriated funds. If the facility
7 indicates on the form that it is not receiving State-
8 appropriated funds, the department shall regard its report as
9 confidential unless it receives other evidence which causes it
10 to conclude that the facility receives State-appropriated funds.

11 (g) Report of maternal death.--After 30 days' public notice,
12 the department shall henceforth require that all reports of
13 maternal deaths occurring within the Commonwealth arising from
14 pregnancy, childbirth or intentional abortion in every case
15 state the cause of death, the duration of the woman's pregnancy
16 when her death occurred and whether or not the woman was under
17 the care of a physician during her pregnancy prior to her death
18 and shall issue such regulations as are necessary to assure that
19 such information is reported, conducting its own investigation
20 if necessary in order to ascertain such data. A woman shall be
21 deemed to have been under the care of a physician prior to her
22 death for the purpose of this chapter when she had either been
23 examined or treated by a physician, not including any
24 examination or treatment in connection with emergency care for
25 complications of her pregnancy or complications of her abortion,
26 preceding the woman's death at any time which is both 21 or more
27 days after the time she became pregnant and within 60 days prior
28 to her death. Known incidents of maternal mortality of
29 nonresident women arising from induced abortion performed in
30 this Commonwealth shall be included as incidents of maternal

1 mortality arising from induced abortions. Incidents of maternal
2 mortality arising from continued pregnancy or childbirth and
3 occurring after induced abortion has been attempted but not
4 completed, including deaths occurring after induced abortion has
5 been attempted but not completed as the result of ectopic
6 pregnancy, shall be included as incidents of maternal mortality
7 arising from induced abortion. The department shall annually
8 compile a statistical report for the General Assembly based upon
9 the data gathered under this subsection, and all such
10 statistical reports shall be available for public inspection and
11 copying.

12 (h) Report of complications.--Every physician who is called
13 upon to provide medical care or treatment to a woman who is in
14 need of medical care because of a complication or complications
15 resulting, in the good faith judgment of the physician, from
16 having undergone an abortion or attempted abortion shall prepare
17 a report thereof and file the report with the department within
18 30 days of the date of his first examination of the woman, which
19 report shall be on forms prescribed by the department, which
20 forms shall contain the following information, as received, and
21 such other information except the name of the patient as the
22 department may from time to time require:

23 (1) Age of patient.

24 (2) Number of pregnancies patient may have had prior to
25 the abortion.

26 (3) Number and type of abortions patient may have had
27 prior to this abortion.

28 (4) Name and address of the facility where the abortion
29 was performed.

30 (5) Gestational age of the unborn child at the time of

1 the abortion, if known.

2 (6) Type of abortion performed, if known.

3 (7) Nature of complication or complications.

4 (8) Medical treatment given.

5 (9) The nature and extent, if known, of any permanent
6 condition caused by the complication.

7 (i) Penalties.--

8 (1) Any person required under this section to file a
9 report, keep any records or supply any information, who
10 willfully fails to file such report, keep such records or
11 supply such information at the time or times required by law
12 or regulation is guilty of "unprofessional conduct" and his
13 license for the practice of medicine and surgery shall be
14 subject to suspension or revocation in accordance with
15 procedures provided under the act of October 5, 1978
16 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice
17 Act, the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as
18 the Medical Practice Act of 1985, or their successor acts.

19 (2) Any person who willfully delivers or discloses to
20 the department any report, record or information known by him
21 to be false commits a misdemeanor of the first degree.

22 (3) In addition to the above penalties, any person,
23 organization or facility who willfully violates any of the
24 provisions of this section requiring reporting shall upon
25 conviction thereof:

26 (i) For the first time, have its license suspended
27 for a period of six months.

28 (ii) For the second time, have its license suspended
29 for a period of one year.

30 (iii) For the third time, have its license revoked.]

1 Section 5. Sections 3215 and 3216(a), (b)(2) and (c) of
2 Title 18 are amended to read:

3 § 3215. [Publicly owned facilities; public officials and public
4 funds] Public officials.

5 [(a) Limitations.--No hospital, clinic or other health
6 facility owned or operated by the Commonwealth, a county, a city
7 or other governmental entity (except the government of the
8 United States, another state or a foreign nation) shall:

9 (1) Provide, induce, perform or permit its facilities to
10 be used for the provision, inducement or performance of any
11 abortion except where necessary to avert the death of the
12 woman or where necessary to terminate pregnancies initiated
13 by acts of rape or incest if reported in accordance with
14 requirements set forth in subsection (c).

15 (2) Lease or sell or permit the subleasing of its
16 facilities or property to any physician or health facility
17 for use in the provision, inducement or performance of
18 abortion, except abortion necessary to avert the death of the
19 woman or to terminate pregnancies initiated by acts of rape
20 or incest if reported in accordance with requirements set
21 forth in subsection (c).

22 (3) Enter into any contract with any physician or health
23 facility under the terms of which such physician or health
24 facility agrees to provide, induce or perform abortions,
25 except abortion necessary to avert the death of the woman or
26 to terminate pregnancies initiated by acts of rape or incest
27 if reported in accordance with requirements set forth in
28 subsection (c).

29 (b) Permitted treatment.--Nothing in subsection (a) shall be
30 construed to preclude any hospital, clinic or other health

1 facility from providing treatment for post-abortion
2 complications.

3 (c) Public funds.--No Commonwealth funds and no Federal
4 funds which are appropriated by the Commonwealth shall be
5 expended by any State or local government agency for the
6 performance of abortion, except:

7 (1) When abortion is necessary to avert the death of the
8 mother on certification by a physician. When such physician
9 will perform the abortion or has a pecuniary or proprietary
10 interest in the abortion there shall be a separate
11 certification from a physician who has no such interest.

12 (2) When abortion is performed in the case of pregnancy
13 caused by rape which, prior to the performance of the
14 abortion, has been reported, together with the identity of
15 the offender, if known, to a law enforcement agency having
16 the requisite jurisdiction and has been personally reported
17 by the victim.

18 (3) When abortion is performed in the case of pregnancy
19 caused by incest which, prior to the performance of the
20 abortion, has been personally reported by the victim to a law
21 enforcement agency having the requisite jurisdiction, or, in
22 the case of a minor, to the county child protective service
23 agency and the other party to the incestuous act has been
24 named in such report.

25 (d) Health plans.--No health plan for employees, funded with
26 any Commonwealth funds, shall include coverage for abortion,
27 except under the same conditions and requirements as provided in
28 subsection (c). The prohibition contained herein shall not apply
29 to health plans for which abortion coverage has been expressly
30 bargained for in any collective bargaining agreement presently

1 in effect, but shall be construed to preclude such coverage with
2 respect to any future agreement.

3 (e) Insurance policies.--All insurers who make available
4 health care and disability insurance policies in this
5 Commonwealth shall make available such policies which contain an
6 express exclusion of coverage for abortion services not
7 necessary to avert the death of the woman or to terminate
8 pregnancies caused by rape or incest.]

9 (f) [Public officers; ordering abortions] Prohibition.--
10 Except in the case of a medical emergency, [no] a court, judge,
11 executive officer, administrative agency or public employee of
12 the Commonwealth or of any local governmental body [shall have
13 power to] may not:

14 (1) issue any order requiring an abortion without the
15 express voluntary consent of the [woman] pregnant individual
16 upon whom the abortion is to be performed; or [shall coerce
17 any person to have]

18 (2) coerce a pregnant individual to undergo or forgo an
19 abortion.

20 (g) Public officers; limiting benefits prohibited.--[No] A
21 court, judge, executive officer, administrative agency or public
22 employee of the Commonwealth or of any local governmental body
23 [shall] may not withhold, reduce or suspend or threaten to
24 withhold, reduce or suspend [any benefits] a benefit to which a
25 [person] pregnant individual would otherwise be entitled on the
26 ground that [such person chooses not to have] the pregnant
27 individual chooses to undergo or forgo an abortion.

28 (h) Penalty.--[Whoever] An individual who orders an abortion
29 in violation of subsection (f) or withholds, reduces or suspends
30 [any benefits] a benefit or threatens to withhold, reduce or

1 suspend [any benefits] a benefit in violation of subsection (g)
2 commits a misdemeanor of the first degree.

3 [(i) Public funds for legal services.--No Federal or State
4 funds which are appropriated by the Commonwealth for the
5 provision of legal services by private agencies, and no public
6 funds generated by collection of interest on lawyer's trust
7 accounts, as authorized by statute previously or subsequently
8 enacted, may be used, directly or indirectly, to:

9 (1) Advocate the freedom to choose abortion or the
10 prohibition of abortion.

11 (2) Provide legal assistance with respect to any
12 proceeding or litigation which seeks to procure or prevent
13 any abortion or to procure or prevent public funding for any
14 abortion.

15 (3) Provide legal assistance with respect to any
16 proceeding or litigation which seeks to compel or prevent the
17 performance or assistance in the performance of any abortion,
18 or the provision of facilities for the performance of any
19 abortion.

20 Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require or
21 prevent the expenditure of funds pursuant to a court order
22 awarding fees for attorney's services under the Civil Rights
23 Attorney's Fees Awards Act of 1976 (Public law 94-559, 90 Stat.
24 2641), nor shall this subsection be construed to prevent the use
25 of public funds to provide court appointed counsel in any
26 proceeding authorized under section 3206 (relating to parental
27 consent).

28 (j) Required statements.--No Commonwealth agency shall make
29 any payment from Federal or State funds appropriated by the
30 Commonwealth for the performance of any abortion pursuant to

1 subsection (c) (2) or (3) unless the Commonwealth agency first:

2 (1) receives from the physician or facility seeking
3 payment a statement signed by the physician performing the
4 abortion stating that, prior to performing the abortion, he
5 obtained a non-notarized, signed statement from the pregnant
6 woman stating that she was a victim of rape or incest, as the
7 case may be, and that she reported the crime, including the
8 identity of the offender, if known, to a law enforcement
9 agency having the requisite jurisdiction or, in the case of
10 incest where a pregnant minor is the victim, to the county
11 child protective service agency and stating the name of the
12 law enforcement agency or child protective service agency to
13 which the report was made and the date such report was made;

14 (2) receives from the physician or facility seeking
15 payment, the signed statement of the pregnant woman which is
16 described in paragraph (1). The statement shall bear the
17 notice that any false statements made therein are punishable
18 by law and shall state that the pregnant woman is aware that
19 false reports to law enforcement authorities are punishable
20 by law; and

21 (3) verifies with the law enforcement agency or child
22 protective service agency named in the statement of the
23 pregnant woman whether a report of rape or incest was filed
24 with the agency in accordance with the statement.

25 The Commonwealth agency shall report any evidence of false
26 statements, of false reports to law enforcement authorities or
27 of fraud in the procurement or attempted procurement of any
28 payment from Federal or State funds appropriated by the
29 Commonwealth pursuant to this section to the district attorney
30 of appropriate jurisdiction and, where appropriate, to the

1 Attorney General.]

2 § 3216. Fetal experimentation.

3 (a) [Unborn or live child] Offense defined.--Any person who
4 knowingly performs any type of nontherapeutic experimentation or
5 nontherapeutic medical procedure (except an abortion as defined
6 in [this chapter] 35 Pa.C.S. § 9103 (relating to definitions))
7 upon any [unborn child] pregnancy as defined in 35 Pa.C.S. §
8 9103, or upon any child born alive during the course of an
9 abortion, commits a felony of the third degree. "Nontherapeutic"
10 means that which is not intended to preserve the life or health
11 of the [child] pregnancy or patient upon whom it is performed.

12 (b) Dead child.--The following standards govern the
13 procurement and use of any fetal tissue or organ which is used
14 in animal or human transplantation, research or experimentation:

15 * * *

16 (2) [No person who provides the information required by
17 section 3205 (relating to informed consent) shall employ the
18 possibility of the use of aborted fetal tissue or organs as
19 an inducement to a pregnant woman to undergo abortion except
20 that payment for reasonable expenses occasioned by the actual
21 retrieval, storage, preparation and transportation of the
22 tissues is permitted.] No qualified clinician as defined in
23 35 Pa.C.S. § 9103 shall employ the possibility of the use of
24 aborted fetal tissue or organs as an inducement to the
25 patient to undergo abortion except that payment for
26 reasonable expenses occasioned by the actual retrieval,
27 storage, preparation and transportation of the tissues is
28 permitted.

29 * * *

30 (c) Construction of section.--Nothing in this section shall

1 be construed to condone or prohibit the performance of
2 diagnostic tests while the [unborn child] fetus is in utero or
3 the performance of pathological examinations on an aborted
4 [child] pregnancy. Nor shall anything in this section be
5 construed to condone or prohibit the performance of in vitro
6 fertilization and accompanying embryo transfer.

7 Section 6. Sections 3217, 3218, 3219 and 3220 of Title 18
8 are repealed:

9 [§ 3217. Civil penalties.

10 Any physician who knowingly violates any of the provisions of
11 section 3204 (relating to medical consultation and judgment) or
12 3205 (relating to informed consent) shall, in addition to any
13 other penalty prescribed in this chapter, be civilly liable to
14 his patient for any damages caused thereby and, in addition,
15 shall be liable to his patient for punitive damages in the
16 amount of \$5,000, and the court shall award a prevailing
17 plaintiff a reasonable attorney fee as part of costs.

18 § 3218. Criminal penalties.

19 (a) Application of chapter.--Notwithstanding any other
20 provision of this chapter, no criminal penalty shall apply to a
21 woman who violates any provision of this chapter solely in order
22 to perform or induce or attempt to perform or induce an abortion
23 upon herself. Nor shall any woman who undergoes an abortion be
24 found guilty of having committed an offense, liability for which
25 is defined under section 306 (relating to liability for conduct
26 of another; complicity) or Chapter 9 (relating to inchoate
27 crimes), by reason of having undergone such abortion.

28 (b) False statement, etc.--A person commits a misdemeanor of
29 the second degree if, with intent to mislead a public servant in
30 performing his official function under this chapter, such

1 person:

2 (1) makes any written false statement which he does not
3 believe to be true; or

4 (2) submits or invites reliance on any writing which he
5 knows to be forged, altered or otherwise lacking in
6 authenticity.

7 (c) Statements "under penalty".--A person commits a
8 misdemeanor of the third degree if such person makes a written
9 false statement which such person does not believe to be true on
10 a statement submitted as required under this chapter, bearing
11 notice to the effect that false statements made therein are
12 punishable.

13 (d) Perjury provisions applicable.--Section 4902(c) through
14 (f) (relating to perjury) apply to subsections (b) and (c).

15 § 3219. State Board of Medicine; State Board of Osteopathic
16 Medicine.

17 (a) Enforcement.--It shall be the duty of the State Board of
18 Medicine and the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine to
19 vigorously enforce those provisions of this chapter, violation
20 of which constitutes "unprofessional conduct" within the meaning
21 of the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the
22 Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, the act of December 20, 1985
23 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, or
24 their successor acts. Each board shall have the power to
25 conduct, and its responsibilities shall include, systematic
26 review of all reports filed under this chapter.

27 (b) Penalties.--Except as otherwise herein provided, upon a
28 finding of "unprofessional conduct" under the provisions of this
29 chapter, the board shall, for the first such offense, prescribe
30 such penalties as it deems appropriate; for the second such

1 offense, suspend the license of the physician for at least 90
2 days; and, for the third such offense, revoke the license of the
3 physician.

4 (c) Reports.--The board shall prepare and submit an annual
5 report of its enforcement efforts under this chapter to the
6 General Assembly, which shall contain the following items:

7 (1) number of violations investigated, by section of
8 this chapter;

9 (2) number of physicians complained against;

10 (3) number of physicians investigated;

11 (4) penalties imposed; and

12 (5) such other information as any committee of the
13 General Assembly shall require.

14 Such reports shall be available for public inspection and
15 copying.

16 § 3220. Construction.

17 (a) Referral to coroner.--The provisions of section 503(3)
18 of the act of June 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), known as the
19 "Vital Statistics Law of 1953," shall not be construed to
20 require referral to the coroner of cases of abortions performed
21 in compliance with this chapter.

22 (b) Other laws unaffected.--Apart from the provisions of
23 subsection (a) and section 3214 (relating to reporting) nothing
24 in this chapter shall have the effect of modifying or repealing
25 any part of the "Vital Statistics Law of 1953" or section 5.2 of
26 the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), known as the
27 "Pennsylvania Human Relations Act."

28 (c) Required statement.--When any provision of this chapter
29 requires the furnishing or obtaining of a nonnotarized statement
30 or verification, the furnishing or acceptance of a notarized

1 statement or verification shall not be deemed a violation of
2 that provision.]

3 Section 7. Title 35 is amended by adding a part to read:

4 PART VII

5 REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

6 Chapter

7 91. Reproductive Freedom

8 CHAPTER 91

9 REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

10 Sec.

11 9101. Short title of chapter.

12 9102. Legislative intent.

13 9103. Definitions.

14 9104. Abortion and assisted reproduction, generally.

15 9105. Reproductive coercion.

16 9106. Pregnant individuals who are incapacitated.

17 9107. Commonwealth interference prohibited.

18 9108. Fundamental right.

19 9109. (Reserved).

20 9110. (Reserved).

21 9111. Public officers and public money.

22 9112. State Boards of Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine and

23 Nursing.

24 9113. Discrimination against providers.

25 9114. Telemedicine.

26 9115. Construction.

27 § 9101. Short title of chapter.

28 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the

29 Reproductive Freedom Act.

30 § 9102. Legislative intent.

1 (a) Rights and interests.--The General Assembly finds as
2 follows:

3 (1) It is the intention of the General Assembly to:

4 (i) Ensure that all people have the freedom to chart
5 the course of their own lives, including the fundamental
6 decision as to whether or not to become a parent.

7 (ii) Protect this freedom by eliminating unnecessary
8 and burdensome restrictions on the right to access
9 abortion and extend legal protections to prevent any
10 person from coercion to have or forgo an abortion.

11 (2) It is assumed that all people weighing reproductive
12 decisions are aware of the longstanding debate regarding
13 abortion and that any individual seeking an abortion is
14 therefore making an informed decision.

15 (3) An abortion should be performed at the earliest
16 opportunity by the method a patient and the patient's
17 provider determine most appropriate and the Commonwealth
18 should facilitate the ease of this activity.

19 (4) The rights and interests furthered by this chapter
20 need to be codified and protected by law.

21 (b) Construction.--In relevant proceedings in which it is
22 possible to do so without violating the Constitution of the
23 United States, the common and statutory law of this Commonwealth
24 shall be construed to extend to pregnant individuals the
25 protection of their individual liberty, in keeping with the
26 Commonwealth's public values of self-determination, freedom and
27 tolerance.

28 § 9103. Definitions.

29 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
30 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the

1 context clearly indicates otherwise:

2 "Abortion." A medical treatment intended to terminate a
3 diagnosable intrauterine pregnancy for a purpose other than to
4 produce a live birth. The term does not include:

- 5 (1) medical treatment to remove a dead fetus or embryo
6 whose death was the result of a spontaneous abortion; or
7 (2) the use or prescription of a drug or device that
8 prevents pregnancy.

9 "Assisted reproduction." A treatment or procedure that
10 includes the handling of a human oocyte or embryo, including in
11 vitro fertilization, gamete intrafallopian transfer, zygote
12 intrafallopian transfer and any similar technology determined by
13 regulation of the department.

14 "Coercive control." Behavior through which an individual
15 knowingly gains power over another individual through the
16 conduct described in paragraphs (1) and (2):

17 (1) Conduct that has, or is reasonably likely to have,
18 any of the following effects:

- 19 (i) isolating the individual from friends, relatives
20 or other sources of support;
21 (ii) depriving the individual of basic necessities;
22 (iii) controlling, regulating or monitoring the
23 individual's movements, communications, daily behavior,
24 finances, economic resources or access to services;
25 (iv) compelling the individual by force, threat or
26 intimidation, including, but not limited to, threats
27 based on actual or suspected immigration status, to
28 either engage in conduct from which the individual has a
29 right to abstain or abstain from conduct that the
30 individual has a right to pursue;

1 (v) frequent name-calling, degradation and demeaning
2 of the individual;

3 (vi) threatening to harm or kill the individual or a
4 child or relative of the individual;

5 (vii) threatening to make public information or make
6 reports to the police or to the authorities;

7 (viii) damaging property or household goods; or

8 (ix) forcing the person to take part in criminal
9 activity or child abuse.

10 (2) Conduct that has, may have or is reasonably likely
11 to have an effect specified under paragraph (1) on the other
12 individual, even if the conduct is directed at a third party,
13 including a child, relative, friend or a companion animal
14 owned by or in the possession of the other individual.

15 "Companion animal." The term:

16 (1) Includes:

17 (i) A domestic or feral dog, domestic or feral cat,
18 nonhuman primate, guinea pig, hamster, rabbit not raised
19 for human food or fiber, exotic or native animal, reptile
20 or exotic or native bird.

21 (ii) A feral animal or an animal under the care,
22 custody or ownership of an individual.

23 (iii) An animal that is bought, sold, traded or
24 bartered.

25 (2) Does not include an agricultural animal, game
26 species or an animal regulated under Federal law such as a
27 research animal.

28 "Complication." Any of the following:

29 (1) A hemorrhage, infection, uterine perforation,
30 cervical laceration or retained product.

1 (2) Any other medical issue that may, in a qualified
2 clinician's good faith medical judgment, result in:

3 (i) the death of a patient;

4 (ii) substantial impairment to the physical or
5 mental health of a patient; or

6 (iii) the likelihood that a pregnancy will result in
7 a stillbirth.

8 "Conscience." A sincerely held set of moral convictions
9 fulfilling a role in the life of the possessor parallel to that
10 filled by a deity among adherents to a religious faith.

11 "Course of conduct." A pattern of actions composed of more
12 than one act over a period of time, however short, evidencing a
13 continuity of conduct.

14 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

15 "Disciplinary action." An appropriate sanction for
16 unprofessional conduct as defined by the following laws for the
17 respective qualified clinicians:

18 (1) Medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy and
19 physician's assistants subject to the act of October 5, 1978
20 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice
21 Act, or the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known
22 as the Medical Practice Act of 1985.

23 (2) Certified registered nurse practitioners subject to
24 the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The
25 Professional Nursing Law.

26 (3) Nurse-midwives subject to 49 Pa. Code Ch. 18 Subch.
27 A (relating to licensure and regulation of midwife
28 activities).

29 "Facility." A public or private hospital, clinic, center,
30 medical school, medical training institution, health care

1 facility, physician's office, infirmary, dispensary, ambulatory
2 surgical center or other institution or location in which
3 medical care is provided to an individual.

4 "Fertilization." The fusion of a human spermatozoon with a
5 human ovum.

6 "Gestational age." The age of a pregnancy as calculated from
7 the first day of the last known menstrual period.

8 "Hospital." An institution licensed under the laws of this
9 Commonwealth.

10 "In vitro fertilization." The purposeful fertilization of a
11 human ovum outside a living body.

12 "Medical emergency." A condition which, on the basis of a
13 qualified clinician's good faith clinical judgment, complicates
14 the medical condition of a pregnant individual as to necessitate
15 the immediate termination of the subject pregnancy to either
16 avert the pregnant individual's death or for which a delay will
17 create any of the following:

18 (1) A substantial risk of impairment of a bodily
19 function.

20 (2) A substantial likelihood of stillbirth.

21 (3) A substantial risk of detriment to the mental health
22 of the pregnant individual.

23 "Medical personnel." A nurse, nurse's aide, medical school
24 student, professional or other individual who furnishes or
25 assists in the furnishing of medical care.

26 "Physician." A medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy
27 licensed to practice medicine in this Commonwealth.

28 "Pregnancy." As follows:

29 (1) The human reproductive process, beginning with the
30 implantation in an individual's uterus.

1 (2) A developing embryo or fetus that has undergone
2 uterine implantation.

3 "Pregnant." Experiencing a pregnancy.

4 "Probable gestational age of the pregnancy." In the judgment
5 of the attending qualified clinician to an abortion, what will
6 be, with reasonable probability, the progress of the pregnancy
7 at the time that the abortion is performed.

8 "Qualified clinician." Any of the following professionals
9 who are eligible to perform abortions in this Commonwealth, in
10 accordance with regulations as promulgated by the department:

11 (1) A physician.

12 (2) A certified registered nurse practitioner as defined
13 in section 2(12) of The Professional Nursing Law.

14 (3) A physician assistant as defined in section 2 of the
15 Osteopathic Medical Practice Act.

16 (4) A nurse-midwife under 49 Pa. Code Ch. 18 Subch. A.
17 "Reproductive coercion." Any of the following:

18 (1) Attempted control over a person's decision to have
19 or forgo an abortion through force, threat of force,
20 intimidation or coercive control.

21 (2) Deliberately interfering with contraception use or
22 access to reproductive health information.

23 § 9104. Abortion and assisted reproduction, generally.

24 (a) Regulations.--The department may promulgate regulations
25 as necessary to ensure that abortion and assisted reproduction
26 are appropriately regulated within this Commonwealth.
27 Regulations promulgated under this section shall ensure the
28 safety of the procedure, that access to procedures is not
29 infringed by government actors unless the restriction is
30 narrowly tailored to address compelling government interest and

1 that privacy is maintained. The regulations may include, but are
2 not limited to, provisions relating to:

3 (1) Facilities in which abortions and assisted
4 reproduction are performed.

5 (2) Levels of certification necessary to perform
6 different procedures.

7 (3) Medically useful or necessary related reporting
8 requirements for qualified clinicians.

9 (b) Certain regulations prohibited.--

10 (1) Except as specifically provided in this chapter, no
11 regulation promulgated by the department pertaining to
12 abortion or assisted reproduction procedures may exceed
13 reasonable regulations that would be imposed on any other
14 similar procedure, area of practice, facility or
15 practitioner.

16 (2) An attempt to impose a greater regulatory burden
17 upon abortion or assisted reproduction procedures, providers
18 or facilities because of their involvement in abortion or
19 assisted reproduction is prohibited and subject to civil
20 remedy as described in section 9113(b) (relating to
21 discrimination against providers).

22 § 9105. Reproductive coercion.

23 (a) Prohibition.--Reproductive coercion is prohibited.

24 (b) Cause of action.--A victim of reproductive coercion,
25 whether attempted or successful, may bring a civil action
26 against a person that engaged in the reproductive coercion. The
27 action may be brought in the court of common pleas of the county
28 where the victim resides or where the attempted or completed
29 reproductive coercion occurred.

30 (c) Damages.--In an action brought under subsection (b), the

1 court may award the following forms of relief:

2 (1) Compensatory damages, including reasonable attorney
3 fees.

4 (2) Punitive damages.

5 (3) Injunctive relief as the court finds appropriate.

6 § 9106. Pregnant individuals who are incapacitated.

7 (a) Consent.--

8 (1) Except in the case of a medical emergency or as
9 otherwise provided in this section, if a pregnant individual
10 has been adjudged an incapacitated person under 20 Pa.C.S. §
11 5511 (relating to petition and hearing; independent
12 evaluation), a qualified clinician may not perform an
13 abortion upon the pregnant individual unless the qualified
14 clinician first obtains the informed consent of the pregnant
15 individual or, if the pregnant individual is incapable of
16 providing informed consent, the pregnant individual's
17 guardian of the person.

18 (2) In deciding whether to grant consent to the abortion
19 under paragraph (1), the pregnant individual's guardian of
20 the person shall only consider the pregnant individual's best
21 interests.

22 (b) Petition and order.--

23 (1) If the pregnant individual's guardian of the person
24 refuses to consent under subsection (a) or makes a decision
25 regarding the abortion that conflicts with the judgment of
26 the pregnant individual and the pregnant individual is
27 capable of making a decision regarding the abortion, the
28 court of common pleas of the judicial district in which the
29 pregnant individual resides or in which the abortion is
30 sought shall, upon petition or motion, after an appropriate

1 hearing, issue an order regarding the abortion.

2 (2) If the court determines that the pregnant individual
3 is capable of giving informed consent to the proposed
4 abortion and has, in fact, given informed consent, the court
5 shall authorize a qualified clinician to perform the
6 abortion.

7 (3) If the court determines that the pregnant individual
8 is not capable of giving informed consent or does not claim
9 to be capable of giving informed consent, the court shall
10 determine whether the performance of an abortion upon the
11 pregnant individual is in the pregnant individual's best
12 interests. If the court determines that the performance of an
13 abortion is in the best interests of the pregnant individual,
14 the court shall authorize a qualified clinician to perform
15 the abortion.

16 (c) Representation in proceedings.--

17 (1) The pregnant individual may participate in
18 proceedings under subsection (b) on the individual's own
19 behalf.

20 (2) The court may appoint a guardian ad litem to assist
21 the pregnant individual.

22 (3) The court shall:

23 (i) Advise the pregnant individual that the
24 individual has a right to court-appointed counsel.

25 (ii) Provide the pregnant individual with court-
26 appointed counsel unless the individual wishes to appear
27 with private counsel or has knowingly and intelligently
28 waived representation by counsel.

29 (d) Proceedings.--The following apply to court proceedings
30 for a pregnant individual described under subsection (a) (1):

1 (1) The court proceedings shall be confidential and
2 shall be given precedence over other pending matters as will
3 ensure that the court reaches a decision promptly and without
4 delay in order to serve the best interests of the pregnant
5 individual.

6 (2) The court of common pleas must rule within three
7 business days of the date of application under this section.

8 (3) A court of common pleas that conducts proceedings
9 under this section shall make in writing specific factual
10 findings and legal conclusions supporting the court of common
11 pleas' decision and shall, upon the initial filing of the
12 pregnant individual's petition for judicial authorization of
13 an abortion, order a sealed record of the petition,
14 pleadings, submissions, transcripts, exhibits, orders,
15 evidence and other written material to be maintained,
16 including the court's findings and conclusions.

17 (4) The application to the court of common pleas shall
18 be accompanied by a non-notarized verification stating that
19 the information in the application is true and correct to the
20 best of the knowledge of the pregnant individual or the
21 individual's guardian of the person.

22 (5) The application to the court of common pleas shall
23 specify the following:

24 (i) The initials of the pregnant individual.

25 (ii) The age of the pregnant individual.

26 (iii) The name and address of the pregnant
27 individual's guardian of the person.

28 (iv) A statement as to whether the pregnant
29 individual has been fully informed of the risks and
30 consequences of the abortion.

1 (v) A statement as to whether the pregnant
2 individual is of sound mind and has sufficient
3 intellectual capacity to consent to the abortion.

4 (vi) A request for relief asking the court to either
5 grant the pregnant individual full capacity for the
6 purpose of personal consent to the abortion or give
7 judicial consent to the abortion under this section based
8 upon a finding that the abortion is in the best interests
9 of the individual.

10 (vii) A statement that the pregnant individual is
11 aware that false statements made in the application are
12 punishable by law.

13 (viii) The signature of the pregnant individual or
14 the individual's guardian of the person.

15 (6) If necessary to serve the interest of justice, the
16 orphans' court division or, in Philadelphia, the family court
17 division, shall refer the pregnant individual or individual's
18 guardian of the person, to the appropriate personnel for
19 assistance in preparing the application.

20 (7) The following provisions apply to proceedings under
21 this section:

22 (i) The name of the pregnant individual shall not be
23 entered on a docket that is subject to public inspection.

24 (ii) All individuals shall be excluded from hearings
25 under this section except:

26 (A) The individual who is making the application
27 to the court or is the subject of the application to
28 the court.

29 (B) The pregnant individual's guardian of the
30 person.

1 (C) Any other individual whose presence is
2 specifically requested by the individual or the
3 individual's guardian of the person.

4 (8) At a hearing under this section, the court shall
5 hear evidence relating to:

6 (i) The emotional development, maturity, intellect
7 and understanding of the individual.

8 (ii) The fact and duration of the individual's
9 pregnancy.

10 (iii) The nature of, possible consequences of and
11 alternatives to the abortion.

12 (iv) Other matters the court may find useful in
13 determining whether the pregnant individual should be
14 granted full capacity for the purpose of consenting to
15 the abortion or whether the abortion is in the best
16 interests of the individual.

17 (9) The court shall notify the individual at a hearing
18 under this section that the court must rule on the
19 individual's application within three business days of the
20 date of the filing of the application and that, if the court
21 fails to rule in favor of the individual's application within
22 the three-day period, the individual has the right to appeal
23 to the Superior Court.

24 (e) Reproductive coercion and incapacitated individuals.--
25 The court shall provide the pregnant individual under this
26 subsection with counsel, expedite the matter and grant relief as
27 may be necessary to prevent reproductive coercion.

28 (f) Filing fees.--Filing fees may not be imposed on
29 individuals availing themselves of the procedures provided by
30 this section.

1 (g) Penalty.--

2 (1) A person is guilty of an offense under this section
3 if the person:

4 (i) Performs an abortion upon a pregnant individual
5 who is incapacitated:

6 (A) with knowledge that the pregnant individual
7 is an incapacitated individual to whom this section
8 applies; or

9 (B) with reckless disregard or negligence as to
10 whether the pregnant individual is an incapacitated
11 individual to whom this section applies.

12 (ii) Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly fails to
13 conform to a requirement of this section.

14 (2) A person who violates paragraph (1) is guilty of
15 unprofessional conduct and the person's license for the
16 practice of medicine and surgery shall be suspended in
17 accordance with procedures provided under the act of October
18 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical
19 Practice Act, or the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457,
20 No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, for a
21 period of at least three months.

22 (3) Failure to comply with the requirements of this
23 section is prima facie evidence of failure to obtain informed
24 consent and of interference with the relationship between the
25 pregnant individual and the individual's guardian of the
26 person, which may be the subject of an appropriate civil
27 action.

28 (4) The laws of this Commonwealth shall not be construed
29 to preclude the award of exemplary damages or damages for
30 emotional distress even if unaccompanied by physical

1 complications in an appropriate civil action relevant to a
2 violation of this section.

3 § 9107. Commonwealth interference prohibited.

4 (a) Methods of contraception.--The Commonwealth may not
5 interfere with the use of medically appropriate methods of
6 contraception or the manner in which medically appropriate
7 methods of contraception are provided.

8 (b) Other interference.--Notwithstanding any other provision
9 of this title or any other law or regulation, the Commonwealth
10 may not interfere with the right of an individual to choose or
11 obtain an abortion.

12 § 9108. Fundamental right.

13 Every individual present in this Commonwealth, including an
14 individual who is under State control or supervision, shall have
15 the fundamental right to do any of the following:

16 (1) Choose or refuse contraception or sterilization.

17 (2) Choose any of the following:

18 (i) To carry a pregnancy.

19 (ii) To give birth.

20 (iii) To terminate a pregnancy carried by the
21 individual.

22 § 9109. (Reserved).

23 § 9110. (Reserved).

24 § 9111. Public officers and public money.

25 (a) Limitation on use of money.--Federal or State money
26 appropriated by the Commonwealth for the provision of legal
27 services performed by private agencies, and public money
28 generated by collection of interest on lawyer's trust accounts
29 as authorized by statute, may not be used to:

30 (1) advocate for the prohibition of abortion or the

1 freedom to choose abortion; or

2 (2) provide legal assistance with respect to a
3 proceeding or litigation that seeks to compel or prevent the
4 performance or assistance in the performance of an abortion.

5 (b) Construction.--Nothing in this section shall be
6 construed to:

7 (1) require or prevent the expenditure of money pursuant
8 to a court order awarding fees for attorney services under 42
9 U.S.C. § 1988 (relating to proceedings in vindication of
10 civil rights); or

11 (2) prevent the use of public money to provide court-
12 appointed counsel in a proceeding authorized under this
13 chapter.

14 § 9112. State Boards of Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine and
15 Nursing.

16 (a) Enforcement.--The State Board of Medicine, the State
17 Board of Osteopathic Medicine and the State Board of Nursing, or
18 their successor agencies, shall enforce a violation of this
19 chapter that constitutes unprofessional conduct within the
20 meaning of the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as
21 The Professional Nursing Law, the act of October 5, 1978
22 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice
23 Act, or the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112), known as
24 the Medical Practice Act of 1985.

25 (b) Reports.--

26 (1) A board identified in subsection (a) shall prepare
27 and submit to the department an annual report of the board's
28 enforcement under this chapter.

29 (2) The annual report shall contain:

30 (i) The number of violations investigated, itemized

1 by section of this chapter.

2 (ii) The number of qualified clinicians who are
3 subjects of the complaints.

4 (iii) The number of qualified clinicians
5 investigated.

6 (iv) The penalties imposed.

7 (v) Other information required by regulation of the
8 department.

9 (3) The annual report shall be accessible for inspection
10 and duplication in accordance with the act of February 14,
11 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as the Right-to-Know Law.

12 § 9113. Discrimination against providers.

13 (a) Right of operation.--A facility or qualified clinician
14 authorized to perform abortion services within this Commonwealth
15 shall not be obstructed or denied the right to operate by a
16 municipality or the department as a result of the abortion
17 services offered by the facility or qualified clinician.

18 (b) Right to action.--An owner of a medical facility
19 offering abortion services, or a qualified clinician offering
20 abortion services, within this Commonwealth that is allegedly
21 the subject of a violation of subsection (a) may bring a cause
22 of action in a court of competent jurisdiction. The court may
23 award the following relief:

24 (1) compensatory damages;

25 (2) punitive damages; or

26 (3) injunctive relief as the court finds appropriate.

27 § 9114. Telemedicine.

28 A qualified clinician may prescribe abortion medications via
29 telemedicine in accordance with all applicable Federal and State
30 statutes and regulations.

1 § 9115. Construction.

2 (a) Referral to coroner.--Section 503(3) of the act of June
3 29, 1953 (P.L.304, No.66), known as the Vital Statistics Law of
4 1953, shall not be construed to require referral to the coroner
5 of a case of abortion performed in compliance with this chapter.

6 (b) Other laws unaffected.--Except as otherwise provided in
7 subsection (a), nothing in this chapter shall have the effect of
8 modifying or repealing any part of the Vital Statistics Law of
9 1953 or section 5.2 of the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744,
10 No.222), known as the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.

11 (c) Required statement.--When a provision of this chapter
12 requires the furnishing or obtaining of a nonnotarized statement
13 or verification, the furnishing or acceptance of a notarized
14 statement or verification shall not be deemed a violation of the
15 provision.

16 Section 8. Chapter 33 of Title 40 is repealed:

17 [CHAPTER 33

18 COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL

19 HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION

20 Sec.

21 3301. Definitions.

22 3302. Opt-out for abortion.

23 § 3301. Definitions.

24 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
25 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
26 context clearly indicates otherwise:

27 "Abortion." The term shall have the same meaning given to it
28 in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3203 (relating to definitions).

29 "Complication." The term shall have the same meaning given
30 to it in 18 Pa.C.S. § 3203 (relating to definitions).

1 "Health insurance exchange." The term shall mean an
2 insurance system established to comply with section 1311(b) or
3 1321(c) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act
4 (Public Law 111-148, 42 U.S.C. § 18031(b) or 18041(c)).
5 § 3302. Opt-out for abortion.

6 (a) Prohibition.--The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby
7 elects pursuant to the authority granted the states under
8 section 1303(a) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care
9 Act (Public Law 111-148, 42 U.S.C. § 18023(a)) to prohibit
10 certain abortion coverage in qualified health plans offered
11 through the health insurance exchange under subsection (b).

12 (b) Included coverage prohibition.--No qualified health plan
13 offered in this Commonwealth through the health insurance
14 exchange shall include coverage for the performance of any
15 abortion unless the reason the abortion is performed is one for
16 which the expenditure of public funds would be permitted under
17 18 Pa.C.S. § 3215(c) (relating to publicly owned facilities;
18 public officials and public funds).

19 (c) Excluded coverage prohibited.--No qualified health plan
20 offered in this Commonwealth through a health insurance exchange
21 shall exclude coverage for:

22 (1) Treatment of any postabortion complication.

23 (2) Treatment of any miscarriage or any complication
24 related to a miscarriage.

25 (d) Option.--Nothing in this section shall prohibit an
26 individual from purchasing optional supplemental abortion
27 coverage provided the individual pays a separate premium for the
28 coverage and obtains the coverage outside of the health
29 insurance exchange.]

30 Section 9. Nothing in 35 Pa.C.S. Ch. 91 shall be construed

1 to prohibit contracts entered into, orders in effect or cases
2 commenced prior to the effective date of this section.

3 Section 10. The addition of 35 Pa.C.S. Ch. 91 shall apply to
4 contracts entered into, orders in effect and cases commenced on
5 or after the effective date of this section.

6 Section 11. This act shall take effect in 60 days.