REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE AND ACCESS IN ILLINOIS: 5 THINGS TO KNOW

In Illinois, you have the right to make your own decisions about your reproductive health care free from government interference including whether to use birth control and what kind, get abortion care, or to give birth. Here are five other things to know:

1. You have the right to make your own informed healthcare decisions about your maternity care throughout pregnancy, birth, and after you have given birth.

2. It is your decision whether to use birth control and choose the method that is best for you. If you decide to use birth control, most insurance companies must cover birth control prescriptions for up to 12 months at one time.

3. Illinois Medicaid and most Illinois based private insurance plans are required to cover abortion procedures.

4. If you are under 18, you do not need consent in order to get an abortion procedure, but you must notify an adult family member (parent, grandparent, step-parent who lives with you, or legal guardian) OR you can request a waiver from a judge. If you are not able to notify one of these adult family members you can go to court for a “judicial bypass waiver” in order to have the procedure without providing notification. Visit ilbypass.org for more information and resources.

5. Your job cannot fire you or refuse to provide reasonable accommodations or adjustments if you are pregnant, recovering from giving birth, or have a medical condition from pregnancy or giving birth.

Find more information at www.aclu-il.org/reprohealthcare