

HB 4085 substitutes politics and ideology for the judgment of medical professionals and patients. It is time for politicians to stay out of women's health care.

HB 4085 is not about health care; it is about “protect[ing] the unborn child” from a woman's decision to have an abortion.

- HB 4085 is nothing more than ideological politicians trying to create barriers to abortion for women who make a fully informed choice.

HB 4085 does not enhance a woman's ability to make an informed medical choice.

- HB 4085 claims to ensure that abortion patients give “voluntary and informed consent.”
 - *Existing legal, ethical and professional obligations already require physicians to provide patients undergoing any medical procedure all necessary information about risks, benefits and alternatives so the patient can give “voluntary and informed consent.” HB 4085 does not add to informed consent.*
- HB 4085 claims to give a woman “complete information on the reality and status of her pregnancy and her unborn child.”
 - *“Reality and status” of a pregnancy or unborn child has no medical meaning. Health care professionals in Illinois provide the information needed to make an informed medical decision, including information about risks, benefits and alternatives. House Bill 4085 does not add to informed consent.*

HB 4085 imposes vague and medically unfounded requirements on physicians that are traumatic for some women.

- HB 4085 requires that women seeking abortions be offered the “opportunity to receive and view an active ultrasound.”
 - *“Active ultrasound” is not a medical term that tells physicians what is required of them. Medical professionals use ultrasounds to date pregnancies and rule out ectopic (tubal) pregnancies before abortion. Any patient who wishes to view an ultrasound image already has that opportunity.*
- HB 4085 makes inaccurate medical findings, for example, that mandatory ultrasounds are essential to “diagnosing ectopic pregnancies.”
 - *While many physicians use ultrasound to diagnose an ectopic pregnancy, it is not “essential” to such a diagnosis.*
 - *If HB 4085 were necessary to protect women from undiagnosed ectopic pregnancies, it also would apply to women who carry their pregnancies to term.*
- A woman who does not wish to view her ultrasound must refuse in writing.
 - *HB4085 makes no exception for a woman ending a wanted pregnancy because of a fetal anomaly or to preserve her own health, or because the pregnancy resulted from rape or incest. For these women in particular, HB 4085 is destructive of the physician-patient relationship and, indeed, can be traumatic.*

HB 4085 forces an already financially burdened State to collect information that serves no epidemiologic purpose. .

- Sponsors do not identify the cost to the State for collecting this information or how the State of Illinois pays for this process