

February 4, 2019

Dear Senators:

We, the undersigned medical and public health organizations, stand in strong opposition to S. 311. This bill represents a dangerous government intrusion into private health care decisions.

S. 311 is a departure from current law. It injects politicians into the patient-provider relationship, disregarding providers' training and clinical judgment and undermining their ability to determine the best course of action with their patients. Patients need and deserve access to compassionate and appropriate medical care. Every woman needs to be able to make the decision that is best for her and her family. But S. 311 would impose criminal and civil penalties on providers to discourage them from providing care, limiting access for their patients.

Instead of enacting policies to advance the health of women and families, the Senate will vote on yet another restriction on women's access to reproductive health care. Abortion is a safe and legal medical procedure in the United States. Abortion providers comply with existing laws and provide excellent care. Women seeking abortion care deserve the highest quality medical treatment based on their individual health circumstances. S. 311 would undermine these principles by attempting to put abortion care out of reach.

We urge lawmakers to protect the autonomy and dignity of patients, stand against the insertion of politics into personal health decisions, and vote against S. 311.

Sincerely,

American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Medical Women's Association  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
Association of Physician Assistants in Obstetrics & Gynecology  
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality  
Medical Students for Choice  
National Abortion Federation  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association  
North American Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology  
Physicians for Reproductive Health  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America  
Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society of Family Planning