
DIGEST

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HB 578 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Amedee

Abstract: Requires disclosure of certain information relative to abortion pill reversal.

Present law provides for the regulation of abortions in this state to the extent it is provided for under federal law.

Proposed law states that when a physician or agent thereof administers mifepristone to a pregnant woman, he shall provide a disclosure statement published by the La. Dept. of Health to the pregnant woman.

Proposed law further provides that the disclosure statement may be provided by doing any of the following:

- (1) Stapling the disclosure statement to a bag, envelope, or other package that contains misoprostol for the pregnant woman to self-administer at home.
- (2) Attaching the disclosure statement to a written prescription for misoprostol provided by the physician or agent thereof.
- (3) Attaching the disclosure statement to the patient's discharge instruction if the prescription for misoprostol is sent directly to a pharmacy.

Further provides that the department shall provide the disclosure statement on an internet webpage created in accordance with present law. The disclosure statement shall be provided on the webpage and include the relevant and medically accurate risks associated with taking the abortion pill. The disclosure statement shall be on a standard page which lays out three cut-out notices and features the following text:

ABORTION PILL REVERSAL? PLEASE READ BEFORE TAKING SECOND PILL: Recent research has indicated that the first pill provided, identified as mifepristone, is not always effective in ending a pregnancy. You may be able to avoid, cease, or reverse the intended effects of a chemically-induced abortion if the second pill provided, identified as misoprostol, is not taken. If you wish to discuss the possibility of continuing your pregnancy, please consult your physician or healthcare provider immediately. Please visit the Louisiana Department of Health's webpage for more information and resources deemed to be medically accurate by the department."

Proposed law requires the La. Dept. of Health to identify the internet webpage as www.abortionpillinfo.la.gov and include the department's logo on the internet webpage.

Proposed law stipulates that nothing in proposed law shall be construed as creating or recognizing a right to abortion.

Proposed law defines "abortion pill", "mifepristone", and "misoprostol".

Proposed law provides that any provision of this Act held to be invalid or unenforceable by its terms, or as applied to any person or circumstance, shall be construed so as to give it the maximum effect permitted by law, unless such holding is one of utter invalidity or unenforceability, in which event such provision shall be deemed severable in accordance with R.S. 24:175, and shall not affect the remainder hereof or the application of such provision to other persons not similarly situated or to other dissimilar circumstances.

(Adds R.S. 40:1061.11.1)