

HAWAII FAMILY FORUM

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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ABORTION BILL UPDATE (HB 1242)

Thanks again to all of you who took the time to be involved on the late term abortion bill, HB 1242. There was a tremendous victory yesterday, which we described in last evening's update. ([Click this link to see previous alerts and to read old bill.](#))

In sum, before the hearing started, the Vice Chair announced that the offending language legalizing late term abortion of viable babies would be changed. He said it was as a result of a drafting error. Whatever the cause, we are grateful it was changed.

However, we need to update you on several items.

- 1) We will need to see the language in the new version to confirm this guarantee. We expect they will keep their word, but we want to be sure it is drafted properly. According to the Vice-Chair's office, the updated version will not be available in print until the 28th, at the earliest. We will keep you updated. The next step is that it will be voted on by the full House.
- 2) The Judiciary Committee did NOT, however, agree to scale back the language allowing all abortions to be done in a clinic or office rather than in the hospital. Case law has held that it is unconstitutional to require certain abortions be performed in hospitals. It does not REQUIRE states to allow ALL abortions AT ANY STAGE be done in a clinic or office. THIS LANGUAGE GOES TOO FAR AND ENDANGERS THE SAFETY OF THE MOTHER. Abortions have complications requiring emergency medical care not always available in an outpatient setting.
- 3) The Committee indicated it would be adding new language suggested by Planned Parenthood that codifies existing law. We have not yet seen the language and we are NEVER satisfied with any language we have not seen in writing. That's our job. And we pledge to keep doing it on behalf of Hawaii families.

ACTION ITEM

Contact your own representative and urge them to oppose HB 1242. Let them know that while we're grateful the Judiciary Committee corrected the worst part of the bill, it still goes further than simply clarifying current law by allowing all abortions at any stage to be done in a clinic or doctor's office, not a hospital. That jeopardizes the mother's safety. And as a result, we oppose it because we oppose all attempts to further expand abortion - in any way.

Please let us know if you've made contact with your own Representative. It helps us as we do our job in the capitol.

MAHALO. Your involvement makes a difference!

[If you do not know who your legislator is, click here.](#)

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