

**Representative Cheryl K. Acton** proposes the following substitute bill:

**ABORTION AMENDMENTS**

2019 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Cheryl K. Acton**

Senate Sponsor: Deidre M. Henderson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill enacts and modifies provisions relating to abortion.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ prohibits an abortion from being performed after the unborn child reaches 18 weeks gestational age except under certain circumstances;
- ▶ modifies the circumstances under which an abortion may be performed after the unborn child reaches 18 weeks gestational age;
- ▶ modifies provisions that require a physician to report certain information to the Department of Health relating to an abortion; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:



26 [76-7-301](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 282

27 [76-7-302](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 282

28 [76-7-313](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 282

29 [76-7-314](#), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 282

30 ENACTS:

31 [76-7-302.5](#), Utah Code Annotated 1953



33 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

34 Section 1. Section [76-7-301](#) is amended to read:

35 **[76-7-301. Definitions.](#)**

36 As used in this part:

37 (1) (a) "Abortion" means:

38 (i) the intentional termination or attempted termination of human pregnancy after  
39 implantation of a fertilized ovum through a medical procedure carried out by a physician or  
40 through a substance used under the direction of a physician;

41 (ii) the intentional killing or attempted killing of a live unborn child through a medical  
42 procedure carried out by a physician or through a substance used under the direction of a  
43 physician; or

44 (iii) the intentional causing or attempted causing of a miscarriage through a medical  
45 procedure carried out by a physician or through a substance used under the direction of a  
46 physician.

47 (b) "Abortion" does not include:

48 (i) removal of a dead unborn child;

49 (ii) removal of an ectopic pregnancy; or

50 (iii) the killing or attempted killing of an unborn child without the consent of the  
51 pregnant woman, unless:

52 (A) the killing or attempted killing is done through a medical procedure carried out by  
53 a physician or through a substance used under the direction of a physician; and

54 (B) the physician is unable to obtain the consent due to a medical emergency.

55 (2) "Abortion clinic" means the same as that term is defined in Section [26-21-2](#).

56 (3) "Abuse" means the same as that term is defined in Section [78A-6-105](#).

57 (4) "Department" means the Department of Health.

58 (5) "Gestational age" means the age of an unborn child as calculated from the first day  
59 of the last menstrual period of the pregnant woman.

60 [~~5~~] (6) "Hospital" means:

61 (a) a general hospital licensed by the department according to Title 26, Chapter 21,  
62 Health Care Facility Licensing and Inspection Act; and

63 (b) a clinic or other medical facility to the extent that such clinic or other medical  
64 facility is certified by the department as providing equipment and personnel sufficient in  
65 quantity and quality to provide the same degree of safety to the pregnant woman and the  
66 unborn child as would be provided for the particular medical procedures undertaken by a  
67 general hospital licensed by the department.

68 [~~6~~] (7) "Information module" means the pregnancy termination information module  
69 prepared by the department.

70 [~~7~~] (8) "Medical emergency" means that condition which, on the basis of the  
71 physician's good faith clinical judgment, so threatens the life of a pregnant woman as to  
72 necessitate the immediate abortion of her pregnancy to avert her death, or for which a delay  
73 will create serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of major bodily function.

74 [~~8~~] (9) "Minor" means an individual who is:

75 (a) under 18 years of age;

76 (b) unmarried; and

77 (c) not emancipated.

78 [~~9~~] (10) (a) "Partial birth abortion" means an abortion in which the person performing  
79 the abortion:

80 (i) deliberately and intentionally vaginally delivers a living fetus until, in the case of a  
81 head first presentation, the entire fetal head is outside the body of the mother, or, in the case of  
82 breech presentation, any part of the fetal trunk past the navel is outside the body of the mother,  
83 for the purpose of performing an overt act that the person knows will kill the partially delivered  
84 living fetus; and

85 (ii) performs the overt act, other than completion of delivery, that kills the partially  
86 living fetus.

87 (b) "Partial birth abortion" does not include the dilation and evacuation procedure

88 involving dismemberment prior to removal, the suction curettage procedure, or the suction  
89 aspiration procedure for abortion.

90 [~~(10)~~] (11) "Physician" means:

91 (a) a medical doctor licensed to practice medicine and surgery under Title 58, Chapter  
92 67, Utah Medical Practice Act;

93 (b) an osteopathic physician licensed to practice osteopathic medicine under Title 58,  
94 Chapter 68, Utah Osteopathic Medical Practice Act; or

95 (c) a physician employed by the federal government who has qualifications similar to a  
96 person described in Subsection [~~(10)~~] (11)(a) or (b).

97 (12) (a) "Severe brain abnormality" means a malformation or defect that causes an  
98 individual to live in a mentally vegetative state.

99 (b) "Severe brain abnormality" does not include:

100 (i) Down syndrome;

101 (ii) spina bifida;

102 (iii) cerebral palsy; or

103 (iv) any other malformation, defect, or condition that does not cause an individual to  
104 live in a mentally vegetative state.

105 Section 2. Section **76-7-302** is amended to read:

106 **76-7-302. Circumstances under which abortion authorized.**

107 (1) As used in this section, "viable" means that the unborn child has reached a stage of  
108 fetal development when the unborn child is potentially able to live outside the womb, as  
109 determined by the attending physician to a reasonable degree of medical certainty.

110 (2) An abortion may be performed in this state only by a physician.

111 (3) An abortion may be performed in this state only under the following circumstances:

112 (a) the unborn child is not viable; or

113 (b) the unborn child is viable, if:

114 (i) the abortion is necessary to avert:

115 (A) the death of the woman on whom the abortion is performed; or

116 (B) a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function  
117 of the woman on whom the abortion is performed;

118 (ii) two physicians who practice maternal fetal medicine concur, in writing, in the

119 patient's medical record that the fetus:

120 (A) has a defect that is uniformly diagnosable and uniformly lethal; or

121 (B) has a severe brain abnormality that is uniformly diagnosable; or

122 (iii) (A) the woman is pregnant as a result of:

123 (I) rape, as described in Section 76-5-402;

124 (II) rape of a child, as described in Section 76-5-402.1; or

125 (III) incest, as described in Subsection 76-5-406(10) or Section 76-7-102; and

126 (B) before the abortion is performed, the physician who performs the abortion:

127 (I) verifies that the incident described in Subsection (3)(b)(iii)(A) has been reported to  
128 law enforcement; and

129 (II) complies with the requirements of Section 62A-4a-403.

130 (4) An abortion may be performed only in an abortion clinic or a hospital, unless it is  
131 necessary to perform the abortion in another location due to a medical emergency.

132 Section 3. Section 76-7-302.5 is enacted to read:

133 **76-7-302.5. Circumstances under which abortion prohibited.**

134 Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, a person may not perform or attempt  
135 to perform an abortion after the unborn child reaches 18 weeks gestational age unless the  
136 abortion is permissible for a reason described in Subsection 76-7-302(3)(b).

137 Section 4. Section 76-7-313 is amended to read:

138 **76-7-313. Department's enforcement responsibility -- Physician's report to**  
139 **department.**

140 (1) In order for the department to maintain necessary statistical information and ensure  
141 enforcement of the provisions of this part:

142 (a) any physician performing an abortion must obtain and record in writing:

143 (i) the age, marital status, and county of residence of the woman on whom the abortion  
144 was performed;

145 (ii) the number of previous abortions performed on the woman described in Subsection  
146 (1)(a)(i);

147 (iii) the hospital or other facility where the abortion was performed;

148 (iv) the weight in grams of the unborn child aborted, if it is possible to ascertain;

149 (v) the pathological description of the unborn child;

150 (vi) the given [~~menstrual~~] gestational age of the unborn child;  
151 (vii) the date the abortion was performed;  
152 [~~(vii)~~] (viii) the measurements of the unborn child, if possible to ascertain; and  
153 [~~(viii)~~] (ix) the medical procedure used to abort the unborn child; and  
154 (b) the department shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah  
155 Administrative Rulemaking Act.

156 (2) Each physician who performs an abortion shall provide the following to the  
157 department within 30 days after the day on which the abortion is performed:

158 (a) the information described in Subsection (1);  
159 (b) a copy of the pathologist's report described in Section 76-7-309;  
160 (c) an affidavit:  
161 (i) that the required consent was obtained pursuant to Sections 76-7-305 and  
162 76-7-305.5; and  
163 (ii) described in Subsection (3), if applicable; and  
164 (d) a certificate indicating:  
165 (i) whether the unborn child was or was not viable, as defined in Subsection  
166 76-7-302(1), at the time of the abortion; [~~and~~]  
167 (ii) whether the unborn child was older than 18 weeks gestational age at the time of the  
168 abortion; and  
169 [~~(ii)~~] (iii) if the unborn child was viable, as defined in Subsection 76-7-302(1), or older  
170 than 18 weeks gestational age at the time of the abortion, the reason for the abortion.

171 (3) If the information module or the address to the website is not provided to a  
172 pregnant woman, the physician who performs the abortion on the woman shall, within 10 days  
173 after the day on which the abortion is performed, provide to the department an affidavit that:  
174 (a) specifies the information that was not provided to the woman; and  
175 (b) states the reason that the information was not provided to the woman.

176 (4) All information supplied to the department shall be confidential and privileged  
177 pursuant to Title 26, Chapter 25, Confidential Information Release.

178 (5) The department shall pursue all administrative and legal remedies when the  
179 department determines that a physician or a facility has not complied with the provisions of this  
180 part.

181 Section 5. Section 76-7-314 is amended to read:

182 **76-7-314. Violations of abortion laws -- Classifications.**

183 (1) A willful violation of Section 76-7-307, 76-7-308, 76-7-310, 76-7-310.5, 76-7-311,  
184 or 76-7-312 is a felony of the third degree.

185 (2) A violation of Section 76-7-326 is a felony of the third degree.

186 (3) A violation of Section 76-7-302.5 or 76-7-314.5 is a felony of the second degree.

187 (4) A violation of any other provision of this part, including Subsections  
188 76-7-305(2)(a) through (c), and (e), is a class A misdemeanor.

189 (5) The Department of Health shall report a physician's violation of any provision of  
190 this part to the Physicians Licensing Board, described in Section 58-67-201.

191 (6) Any person with knowledge of a physician's violation of any provision of this part  
192 may report the violation to the Physicians Licensing Board, described in Section 58-67-201.

193 (7) In addition to the penalties described in this section, the department may take any  
194 action described in Section 26-21-11 against an abortion clinic if a violation of this chapter  
195 occurs at the abortion clinic.