

**Representative Steve R. Christiansen** proposes the following substitute bill:

**ABORTION REVISIONS**

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Steve R. Christiansen**

Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

6	Cosponsors:	Karianne Lisonbee	V. Lowry Snow
7	Cheryl K. Acton	Adam Robertson	
8	Brady Brammer	Travis M. Seegmiller	

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill creates requirements relating to abortion procedures.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ modifies provisions related to a pregnant woman's informed consent to an abortion;
- ▶ requires a medical professional to do the following before a pregnant woman may give informed consent to an abortion:
  - display live fetal images of the unborn child;
  - describe the fetal images;
  - make audible the fetal heartbeat, if possible; and
  - provide written confirmation to the pregnant woman stating that the medical professional complied with the requirements;
- ▶ provides that a pregnant woman may choose not to view the fetal images and not to listen to the fetal heartbeat;



- 25           ▶ adds certain record keeping requirements for a physician performing an abortion;
- 26           ▶ imposes a fine on a physician that performs an abortion on a pregnant woman who
- 27 has not confirmed that the pregnant woman has provided informed consent;
- 28           ▶ requires the Department of Health to:
  - 29           • create, and make available online, a form to be signed by a physician or
  - 30 qualified technician displaying the fetal images; and
  - 31           • provide a list of organizations that offer a free or low cost ultrasound; and
  - 32           ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

33 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

34           None

35 **Other Special Clauses:**

36           None

37 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

38 AMENDS:

39           **26-21-6.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 282

40           **76-7-305**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 124 and 189

41           **76-7-305.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 282

42           **78B-3-406**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 346



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

45           Section 1. Section **26-21-6.5** is amended to read:

46           **26-21-6.5. Licensing of an abortion clinic -- Rulemaking authority -- Fee.**

47           (1) A type I abortion clinic may not operate in the state without a license issued by the

48 department to operate a type I abortion clinic.

49           (2) A type II abortion clinic may not operate in the state without a license issued by the

50 department to operate a type II abortion clinic.

51           (3) The department shall make rules establishing minimum health, safety, sanitary, and

52 recordkeeping requirements for:

53           (a) a type I abortion clinic; and

54           (b) a type II abortion clinic.

55           (4) To receive and maintain a license described in this section, an abortion clinic shall:

- 56 (a) apply for a license on a form prescribed by the department;
- 57 (b) satisfy and maintain the minimum health, safety, sanitary, and recordkeeping
- 58 requirements established under Subsection (3) that relate to the type of abortion clinic licensed;
- 59 (c) comply with the recordkeeping and reporting requirements of Section [76-7-313](#) and
- 60 Subsection [76-7-305](#)(3);
- 61 (d) comply with the requirements of Title 76, Chapter 7, Part 3, Abortion;
- 62 (e) pay the annual licensing fee; and
- 63 (f) cooperate with inspections conducted by the department.

64 (5) The department shall, at least twice per year, inspect each abortion clinic in the  
 65 state to ensure that the abortion clinic is complying with all statutory and licensing  
 66 requirements relating to the abortion clinic. At least one of the inspections shall be made  
 67 without providing notice to the abortion clinic.

68 (6) The department shall charge an annual license fee, set by the department in  
 69 accordance with the procedures described in Section [63J-1-504](#), to an abortion clinic in an  
 70 amount that will pay for the cost of the licensing requirements described in this section and the  
 71 cost of inspecting abortion clinics.

72 (7) The department shall deposit the licensing fees described in this section in the  
 73 General Fund as a dedicated credit to be used solely to pay for the cost of the licensing  
 74 requirements described in this section and the cost of inspecting abortion clinics.

75 Section 2. Section **76-7-305** is amended to read:

76 **76-7-305. Informed consent requirements for abortion -- 72-hour wait mandatory**  
 77 **-- Exceptions.**

78 (1) A person may not perform an abortion, unless, before performing the abortion, the  
 79 physician who will perform the abortion obtains from the woman on whom the abortion is to  
 80 be performed a voluntary and informed written consent that is consistent with:

- 81 (a) Section 8.08 of the American Medical Association's Code of Medical Ethics,
- 82 Current Opinions; and
- 83 (b) the provisions of this section.

84 (2) Except as provided in Subsection ~~[(8)]~~ (9), consent to an abortion is voluntary and  
 85 informed only if, at least 72 hours before the abortion:

86 ~~[(a) a staff member of an abortion clinic or hospital, physician, registered nurse, nurse~~

87 ~~practitioner, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife, genetic counselor, or~~  
88 ~~physician's assistant presents the information module to the pregnant woman;~~

89 ~~[(b)]~~ (a) the pregnant woman views the entire information module described in Section  
90 76-7-305.5 and ~~[presents]~~ obtains evidence ~~[to the individual described in Subsection (2)(a)]~~  
91 that the pregnant woman viewed the entire information module;

92 ~~[(c)]~~ after receiving the evidence described in Subsection (2)(b), the individual  
93 ~~described in Subsection (2)(a):]~~

94 ~~[(i)]~~ documents that the pregnant woman viewed the entire information module;]

95 ~~[(ii)]~~ gives the pregnant woman, upon her request, a copy of the documentation  
96 ~~described in Subsection (2)(c)(i); and]~~

97 ~~[(iii)]~~ provides a copy of the statement described in Subsection (2)(c)(i) to the physician  
98 ~~who is to perform the abortion, upon request of that physician or the pregnant woman;]~~

99 ~~[(d)]~~ (b) after the pregnant woman views the entire information module[;];

100 (i) the physician who is to perform the abortion, the referring physician, a physician, a  
101 registered nurse, nurse practitioner, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife,  
102 genetic counselor, or physician's assistant, ~~[in a face-to-face consultation]~~ in any location in the  
103 state, orally informs the woman of:

104 ~~[(i)]~~ (A) the nature of the proposed abortion procedure;

105 ~~[(ii)]~~ (B) specifically how the procedure described in Subsection (2)(d)(i) will affect  
106 the fetus;

107 ~~[(iii)]~~ (C) the risks and alternatives to the abortion procedure or treatment;

108 ~~[(iv)]~~ (D) the options and consequences of aborting a medication-induced abortion, if  
109 the proposed abortion procedure is a medication-induced abortion;

110 ~~[(v)]~~ (E) the probable gestational age and a description of the development of the  
111 unborn child at the time the abortion would be performed;

112 ~~[(vi)]~~ (F) the medical risks associated with carrying her child to term; and

113 ~~[(vii)]~~ the right to view an ultrasound of the unborn child, at no expense to the pregnant  
114 woman, upon her request; and]

115 ~~[(viii)]~~ (G) when the result of a prenatal screening or diagnostic test indicates that the  
116 unborn child has or may have Down syndrome, the Department of Health website containing  
117 the information described in Section 26-10-14, including the information on the informational

118 support sheet; and

119 ~~[(e) after the pregnant woman views the entire information module;]~~

120 ~~[(ii) a staff member of [the] an abortion clinic or hospital [provides to the pregnant~~  
121 ~~woman] orally informs the pregnant woman of:~~

122 ~~[(i) on a document that the pregnant woman may take home:]~~

123 (A) the address for the department's website described in Section 76-7-305.5; and

124 ~~[(B) a statement that the woman may request, from a staff member of the abortion~~  
125 ~~clinic or hospital where the woman viewed the information module, a printed copy of the~~  
126 ~~material on the department's website; and]~~

127 ~~[(ii) a printed copy of] (B) the material on the department's website described in~~  
128 ~~Section 76-7-305.5, [if requested by the pregnant woman.]; and~~

129 ~~(c) a physician or qualified technician, in accordance with Subsection (5), displays fetal~~  
130 ~~images of each unborn child and makes each unborn child's heartbeat audible for the pregnant~~  
131 ~~woman.~~

132 (3) (a) Before performing an abortion, the physician who is to perform the abortion  
133 shall:

134 ~~[(a)] (i) in a face-to-face consultation, provide the information described in Subsection~~  
135 ~~[(2)(d)] (2)(b), unless the attending physician or referring physician is the individual who~~  
136 ~~provided the information required under Subsection [(2)(d)] (2)(b); and~~

137 ~~[(b) (i) obtain from the pregnant woman]~~

138 ~~(ii) obtain:~~

139 ~~(A) a written certification from the pregnant woman that the information required to be~~  
140 ~~provided under Subsection (2) and this Subsection (3) was provided in accordance with the~~  
141 ~~requirements of Subsection (2) and this Subsection (3); [and]~~

142 ~~(B) the signed form or copy of the signed form described in Subsection (5)(c); and~~

143 ~~[(ii) obtain] (C) a copy of the [statement] evidence described in Subsection [(2)(c)(i)]~~  
144 ~~(2)(a).~~

145 ~~(b) The treating physician shall retain a copy of each document described in Subsection~~  
146 ~~(3)(a) in the pregnant woman's medical record.~~

147 (4) When a serious medical emergency compels the performance of an abortion, the  
148 physician shall inform the woman prior to the abortion, if possible, of the medical indications

149 supporting the physician's judgment that an abortion is necessary.

150 ~~[(5) If an ultrasound is performed on a woman before an abortion is performed, the~~  
151 ~~individual who performs the ultrasound, or another qualified individual, shall:]~~

152 ~~[(a) inform the woman that the ultrasound images will be simultaneously displayed in a~~  
153 ~~manner to permit her to:]~~

154 ~~[(i) view the images, if she chooses to view the images; or]~~

155 ~~[(ii) not view the images, if she chooses not to view the images;]~~

156 ~~[(b) simultaneously display the ultrasound images in order to permit the woman to:]~~

157 ~~[(i) view the images, if she chooses to view the images; or]~~

158 ~~[(ii) not view the images, if she chooses not to view the images;]~~

159 ~~[(c) inform the woman that, if she desires, the person performing the ultrasound, or~~  
160 ~~another qualified person shall]~~

161 (5) (a) A physician, or a qualified technician, completing the requirements under  
162 Subsection (2)(c) shall:

163 (i) display live video or electronic fetal images of each unborn child to the pregnant  
164 woman;

165 (ii) simultaneously provide a detailed description of the [ultrasound] fetal images  
166 described in Subsection (5)(a)(i), including:

167 (A) the presence and location of each unborn child within the uterus;

168 (B) the number of unborn children within the uterus;

169 ~~[(i)]~~ (C) the dimensions of [the] each unborn child;

170 ~~[(ii)]~~ (D) the presence of cardiac activity in [the] each unborn child, if present and  
171 viewable; and

172 ~~[(iii)]~~ (E) the presence of external body parts or internal organs, if present and  
173 viewable; [and]

174 ~~[(d) provide the detailed description described in Subsection (5)(c), if the woman~~  
175 ~~requests it.]~~

176 (iii) display the fetal images described in Subsection (5)(a)(i) so that the pregnant  
177 woman may view the images; and

178 (iv) make each unborn child's heartbeat audible to the pregnant woman if:

179 (A) a heartbeat is audible; and

180 (B) the procedure described in Subsection (5)(a)(iii) complies with best medical  
181 practices.

182 (b) (i) This section does not prevent a pregnant woman from:

183 (A) averting her eyes from the fetal images described in Subsection (5)(a)(i); or

184 (B) requesting the volume of a heartbeat be reduced or turned off.

185 (ii) The physician or qualified technician completing the requirements of Subsection  
186 (5)(a) and the pregnant woman are not subject to any civil or criminal penalty if the pregnant  
187 woman refuses to look at the fetal images described in Subsection (5)(a)(i) or listen to the  
188 heartbeat of an unborn child.

189 (c) The physician or qualified technician who completes the requirements of  
190 Subsection (5)(a) shall:

191 (i) sign the form described in Subsection(5)(d) certifying that the physician or qualified  
192 technician completed each of the requirements described in Subsection (5)(a); and

193 (ii) provide the signed form to the pregnant woman.

194 (d) The department shall:

195 (i) create a form to be signed by a physician or qualified technician who completes the  
196 requirements of Subsection (5)(a) that, when signed by the physician or qualified technician,  
197 certifies that the physician or qualified technician complied with each requirement described in  
198 Subsection (5)(a); and

199 (ii) make the form described in Subsection (5)(d)(i) available for download on the  
200 department's website.

201 (e) Any physician or qualified technician capable of complying with the requirements  
202 of Subsection (5)(a) may complete the requirements of Subsection (5)(a).

203 (f) Displaying the images produced by a transabdominal ultrasound satisfies the  
204 requirement to display fetal images under Subsection (5)(a)(i) regardless of the stage of the  
205 pregnancy.

206 (6) The information described in Subsections (2), (3), and (5) is not required to be  
207 provided to a pregnant woman under this section if the abortion is performed for a reason  
208 described in:

209 (a) Subsection 76-7-302(3)(b)(i), if the treating physician and one other physician  
210 concur, in writing, that the abortion is necessary to avert:

211 (i) the death of the woman on whom the abortion is performed; or  
212 (ii) a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function  
213 of the woman on whom the abortion is performed; or

214 (b) Subsection 76-7-302(3)(b)(ii).

215 (7) In addition to the criminal penalties described in this part, a physician who violates  
216 the provisions of this section:

217 (a) is guilty of unprofessional conduct as defined in Section 58-67-102 or 58-68-102;  
218 and

219 (b) shall be subject to:

220 (i) suspension or revocation of the physician's license for the practice of medicine and  
221 surgery in accordance with Section 58-67-401 or 58-68-401; and

222 (ii) administrative penalties in accordance with Section 58-67-402 or 58-68-402.

223 (8) In addition to the penalties described in this part, a physician who fails to comply  
224 with Subsection (3)(a) is subject to a fine not to exceed \$100,000 for a first offense or  
225 \$250,000 for each subsequent offense.

226 [~~8~~] (9) A physician is not guilty of violating this section for failure to furnish any of  
227 the information described in Subsection (2) or (3), or for failing to comply with Subsection (5),  
228 if:

229 (a) the physician can demonstrate by a preponderance of the evidence that:

230 (i) the physician reasonably believed that furnishing the information would have  
231 resulted in a severely adverse effect on the physical [~~or mental~~] health of the pregnant woman;  
232 or

233 (ii) (A) a licensed mental health professional determined that furnishing the  
234 information would have resulted in a severely adverse effect on the mental health of the  
235 pregnant woman;

236 (B) the licensed mental health professional documented the determination described in  
237 Subsection (8)(a)(ii)(A); and

238 (C) the documentation described in Subsection (8)(a)(ii)(B) is retained in the pregnant  
239 woman's medical record;

240 (b) in the physician's professional judgment, the abortion was necessary to avert:

241 (i) the death of the woman on whom the abortion is performed; or



242 (ii) a serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function  
243 of the woman on whom the abortion is performed;

244 (c) the pregnancy was the result of rape or rape of a child, as defined in Sections  
245 [76-5-402](#) and [76-5-402.1](#);

246 (d) the pregnancy was the result of incest, as defined in Subsection [76-5-406\(2\)\(j\)](#) and  
247 Section [76-7-102](#); or

248 (e) at the time of the abortion, the pregnant woman was 14 years of age or younger.

249 ~~[(9)]~~ (10) A physician who complies with the provisions of this section and Section  
250 [76-7-304.5](#) may not be held civilly liable to the physician's patient for failure to obtain  
251 informed consent under Section [78B-3-406](#).

252 ~~[(10)]~~ (11) (a) The department shall provide ~~[an ultrasound, in accordance with the~~  
253 ~~provisions of Subsection (5)(b), at no expense to the pregnant woman.]~~ a low cost option to a  
254 pregnant woman seeking compliance with the requirements of Subsection (2)(c).

255 (b) The department may charge a reasonable fee to offset the administrative costs  
256 associated with coordinating and performing the requirements of Subsection (2)(c).

257 (c) Before charging a fee described in Subsection (11)(a), the department shall inform  
258 the pregnant woman of the resources described in Subsection [76-7-305.5\(2\)\(g\)](#).

259 ~~[(b)]~~ (d) A local health department shall refer a pregnant woman who requests an  
260 ultrasound described in Subsection ~~[(10)]~~ (11)(a) to the department.

261 ~~[(11)]~~ (12) A physician is not guilty of violating this section if:

262 (a) the information described in Subsection (2) is provided less than 72 hours before  
263 the physician performs the abortion; and

264 (b) in the physician's professional judgment, the abortion was necessary in a case  
265 where:

266 (i) a ruptured membrane, documented by the attending or referring physician, will  
267 cause a serious infection; or

268 (ii) a serious infection, documented by the attending or referring physician, will cause a  
269 ruptured membrane.

270 Section 3. Section [76-7-305.5](#) is amended to read:

271 **[76-7-305.5](#). Requirements for information module and website.**

272 (1) In order to ensure that a woman's consent to an abortion is truly an informed

273 consent, the department shall, in accordance with the requirements of this section, develop an  
274 information module and maintain a public website.

275 (2) The information module and public website described in Subsection (1) shall:

276 (a) be scientifically accurate, comprehensible, and presented in a truthful,

277 nonmisleading manner;

278 (b) present adoption as a preferred and positive choice and alternative to abortion;

279 (c) be produced in a manner that conveys the state's preference for childbirth over

280 abortion;

281 (d) state that the state prefers childbirth over abortion;

282 (e) state that it is unlawful for any person to coerce a woman to undergo an abortion;

283 (f) state that any physician who performs an abortion without obtaining the woman's

284 informed consent or without providing her a private medical consultation in accordance with

285 the requirements of this section, may be liable to her for damages in a civil action at law;

286 (g) provide a geographically indexed list of resources and public and private services

287 available to assist, financially or otherwise, a pregnant woman during pregnancy, at childbirth,

288 and while the child is dependent, including:

289 (i) medical assistance benefits for prenatal care, childbirth, and neonatal care;

290 (ii) organizations that offer a free or low-cost ultrasound;

291 ~~[(ii)]~~ (iii) services and supports available under Section [35A-3-308](#);

292 ~~[(iii)]~~ (iv) other financial aid that may be available during an adoption;

293 ~~[(iv)]~~ (v) services available from public adoption agencies, private adoption agencies,

294 and private attorneys whose practice includes adoption; and

295 ~~[(v)]~~ (vi) the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of each person listed under this

296 Subsection (2)(g);

297 (h) describe the adoption-related expenses that may be paid under Section [76-7-203](#);

298 (i) describe the persons who may pay the adoption related expenses described in

299 Subsection (2)(h);

300 (j) except as provided in Subsection (4), describe the legal responsibility of the father

301 of a child to assist in child support, even if the father has agreed to pay for an abortion;

302 (k) except as provided in Subsection (4), describe the services available through the

303 Office of Recovery Services, within the Department of Human Services, to establish and

304 collect the support described in Subsection (2)(j);  
305 (l) state that private adoption is legal;  
306 (m) describe and depict, with pictures or video segments, the probable anatomical and  
307 physiological characteristics of an unborn child at two-week gestational increments from  
308 fertilization to full term, including:  
309 (i) brain and heart function;  
310 (ii) the presence and development of external members and internal organs; and  
311 (iii) the dimensions of the fetus;  
312 (n) show an ultrasound of the heartbeat of an unborn child at:  
313 (i) four weeks from conception;  
314 (ii) six to eight weeks from conception; and  
315 (iii) each month after 10 weeks gestational age, up to 14 weeks gestational age;  
316 (o) describe abortion procedures used in current medical practice at the various stages  
317 of growth of the unborn child, including:  
318 (i) the medical risks associated with each procedure;  
319 (ii) the risk related to subsequent childbearing that are associated with each procedure;  
320 and  
321 (iii) the consequences of each procedure to the unborn child at various stages of fetal  
322 development;  
323 (p) describe the possible detrimental psychological effects of abortion;  
324 (q) describe the medical risks associated with carrying a child to term;  
325 (r) include relevant information on the possibility of an unborn child's survival at the  
326 two-week gestational increments described in Subsection (2)(m);  
327 (s) except as provided in Subsection (5), include:  
328 (i) information regarding substantial medical evidence from studies concluding that an  
329 unborn child who is at least 20 weeks gestational age may be capable of experiencing pain  
330 during an abortion procedure; and  
331 (ii) the measures that will be taken in accordance with Section [76-7-308.5](#);  
332 (t) explain the options and consequences of aborting a medication-induced abortion;  
333 (u) include the following statement regarding a medication-induced abortion,  
334 "Research indicates that mifepristone alone is not always effective in ending a pregnancy. You

335 may still have a viable pregnancy after taking mifepristone. If you have taken mifepristone but  
336 have not yet taken the second drug and have questions regarding the health of your fetus or are  
337 questioning your decision to terminate your pregnancy, you should consult a physician  
338 immediately."; and

339 ~~[(v) inform a pregnant woman that she has the right to view an ultrasound of the~~  
340 ~~unborn child, at no expense to her, upon her request; and]~~

341 ~~[(w)]~~ (v) be in a typeface large enough to be clearly legible.

342 (3) The information module and website described in Subsection (1) may include a  
343 toll-free 24-hour telephone number that may be called in order to obtain, orally, a list and  
344 description of services, agencies, and adoption attorneys in the locality of the caller.

345 (4) The department may develop a version of the information module and website that  
346 omits the information in Subsections (2)(j) and (k) for a viewer who is pregnant as the result of  
347 rape.

348 (5) The department may develop a version of the information module and website that  
349 omits the information described in Subsection (2)(s) for a viewer who will have an abortion  
350 performed:

351 (a) on an unborn child who is less than 20 weeks gestational age at the time of the  
352 abortion; or

353 (b) on an unborn child who is at least 20 weeks gestational age at the time of the  
354 abortion, if:

355 (i) the abortion is being performed for a reason described in Subsection  
356 76-7-302(3)(b)(i) or (ii); and

357 (ii) due to a serious medical emergency, time does not permit compliance with the  
358 requirement to provide the information described in Subsection (2)(s).

359 (6) The department and each local health department shall make the information  
360 module and the website described in Subsection (1) available at no cost to any person.

361 (7) The department shall make the website described in Subsection (1) available for  
362 viewing on the department's website by clicking on a conspicuous link on the home page of the  
363 website.

364 (8) The department shall ensure that the information module is:

365 (a) available to be viewed at all facilities where an abortion may be performed;

366 (b) interactive for the individual viewing the module, including the provision of  
367 opportunities to answer questions and manually engage with the module before the module  
368 transitions from one substantive section to the next;

369 (c) produced in English and may include subtitles in Spanish or another language; and

370 (d) capable of being viewed on a tablet or other portable device.

371 (9) The department shall present the information module to the Health and Human  
372 Services Interim Committee for the committee's review and recommendation before November  
373 1, 2018.

374 (10) The department shall release the information module, for the use described in  
375 Section 76-7-305, before January 1, 2019.

376 (11) After the department releases the initial version of the information module, for the  
377 use described in Section 76-7-305, the department shall:

378 (a) update the information module, as required by law; and

379 (b) present an updated version of the information module to the Health and Human  
380 Services Interim Committee for the committee's review and recommendation before releasing  
381 the updated version for the use described in Section 76-7-305.

382 Section 4. Section 78B-3-406 is amended to read:

383 **78B-3-406. Failure to obtain informed consent -- Proof required of patient --**  
384 **Defenses -- Consent to health care.**

385 (1) (a) When a person submits to health care rendered by a health care provider, it is  
386 presumed that actions taken by the health care provider are either expressly or impliedly  
387 authorized to be done.

388 (b) For a patient to recover damages from a health care provider in an action based  
389 upon the provider's failure to obtain informed consent, the patient must prove the following:

390 (i) that a provider-patient relationship existed between the patient and health care  
391 provider;

392 (ii) the health care provider rendered health care to the patient;

393 (iii) the patient suffered personal injuries arising out of the health care rendered;

394 (iv) the health care rendered carried with it a substantial and significant risk of causing  
395 the patient serious harm;

396 (v) the patient was not informed of the substantial and significant risk;

397 (vi) a reasonable, prudent person in the patient's position would not have consented to  
398 the health care rendered after having been fully informed as to all facts relevant to the decision  
399 to give consent; and

400 (vii) the unauthorized part of the health care rendered was the proximate cause of  
401 personal injuries suffered by the patient.

402 (2) In determining what a reasonable, prudent person in the patient's position would do  
403 under the circumstances, the finder of fact shall use the viewpoint of the patient before health  
404 care was provided and before the occurrence of any personal injuries alleged to have arisen  
405 from said health care.

406 (3) It shall be a defense to any malpractice action against a health care provider based  
407 upon alleged failure to obtain informed consent if:

408 (a) the risk of the serious harm which the patient actually suffered was relatively  
409 minor;

410 (b) the risk of serious harm to the patient from the health care provider was commonly  
411 known to the public;

412 (c) the patient stated, prior to receiving the health care complained of, that he would  
413 accept the health care involved regardless of the risk; or that he did not want to be informed of  
414 the matters to which he would be entitled to be informed;

415 (d) the health care provider, after considering all of the attendant facts and  
416 circumstances, used reasonable discretion as to the manner and extent to which risks were  
417 disclosed, if the health care provider reasonably believed that additional disclosures could be  
418 expected to have a substantial and adverse effect on the patient's condition; or

419 (e) the patient or the patient's representative executed a written consent which sets forth  
420 the nature and purpose of the intended health care and which contains a declaration that the  
421 patient accepts the risk of substantial and serious harm, if any, in hopes of obtaining desired  
422 beneficial results of health care and which acknowledges that health care providers involved  
423 have explained the patient's condition and the proposed health care in a satisfactory manner and  
424 that all questions asked about the health care and its attendant risks have been answered in a  
425 manner satisfactory to the patient or the patient's representative.

426 (4) The written consent shall be a defense to an action against a health care provider  
427 based upon failure to obtain informed consent unless the patient proves that the person giving

428 the consent lacked capacity to consent or shows by clear and convincing evidence that the  
429 execution of the written consent was induced by the defendant's affirmative acts of fraudulent  
430 misrepresentation or fraudulent omission to state material facts.

431 (5) This act may not be construed to prevent any person 18 years of age or over from  
432 refusing to consent to health care for the patient's own person upon personal or religious  
433 grounds.

434 (6) Except as provided in Section 76-7-304.5, the following persons are authorized and  
435 empowered to consent to any health care not prohibited by law:

436 (a) any parent, whether an adult or a minor, for the parent's minor child;

437 (b) any married person, for a spouse;

438 (c) any person temporarily standing in loco parentis, whether formally serving or not,  
439 for the minor under that person's care and any guardian for the guardian's ward;

440 (d) any person 18 years of age or over for that person's parent who is unable by reason  
441 of age, physical or mental condition, to provide such consent;

442 (e) any patient 18 years of age or over;

443 (f) any female regardless of age or marital status, when given in connection with her  
444 pregnancy or childbirth;

445 (g) in the absence of a parent, any adult for the adult's minor brother or sister;

446 (h) in the absence of a parent, any grandparent for the grandparent's minor grandchild;

447 (i) an emancipated minor as provided in Section 78A-6-805;

448 (j) a minor who has contracted a lawful marriage; and

449 (k) an unaccompanied homeless minor, as that term is defined in the McKinney-Vento  
450 Homeless Assistance Act of 1987, Pub. L. 100-77, as amended, who is 15 years of age or older.

451 (7) A person who in good faith consents or authorizes health care treatment or  
452 procedures for another as provided by this act may not be subject to civil liability.

453 (8) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a health care provider fails to  
454 comply with the requirement in Section 58-1-509, the health care provider is presumed to have  
455 lacked informed consent with respect to the patient examination, as defined in Section  
456 58-1-509.

457 (9) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if a health care provider  
458 fails to comply with Subsection 76-7-305(2) before performing an abortion, the health care

459 provider is presumed to have lacked the informed consent of the pregnant woman to perform  
460 an abortion.

461 (b) A health care provider may reverse the presumption described in Subsection (9)(a)  
462 if the health care provider produces a signed copy of the certificate described in Subsection  
463 [76-7-305\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)\(A\)](#).