

The Family Planning Ban SB 72

Senator Joe Leibham and Representative Scott Suder have introduced the Birth Control Ban, AB 142 and SB 72, which *eliminates* public funding for 127 family planning clinics in Wisconsin. This bill **will do absolutely nothing to reduce the number of abortions in Wisconsin**. In fact, by eliminating much needed family planning services, this bill will lead to an increase in unintended pregnancies and an increase in abortions.

The Family Planning Ban Eliminates Poor and Uninsured Women's Access to Birth Control

- Currently, over 600,000 women in Wisconsin are in need of access of reproductive health care. Half of those women are uninsured, under-insured or ineligible for Medicaid and rely on publicly funded family planning clinics for basic health care.
 - The Birth Control Ban eliminates funding for 127 publicly funded family planning clinics in Wisconsin that provide basic health care to women.
 - The Birth Control Ban will leave almost 100,000 women without access to contraceptive services and supplies, breast and cervical cancer screening and treatment, pregnancy counseling and prenatal care, and testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.
 - This bill puts the health of women and their families at risk. It creates a barrier to health care access where there was none and 100,000 women in Wisconsin will go without basic health care.

The Family Planning Ban Will Cost Wisconsin Taxpayers Millions of Dollars

- This bill threatens Wisconsin's ability to receive more than \$13 million dollars in federal funding.
 - Wisconsin will be in danger of losing federal funding allocated each year through the Maternal and Child Health block grant and Title X if the restrictions in this bill become law.
 - The Birth Control Ban explicitly endorses the loss of federal funds by repealing Wis. Stat. § 20.9275(3m), which provides an exception to state restrictions on pregnancy programs if the restrictions would result in loss of federal funds.
 - Under the last fiscal estimate, the projected total loss was \$27 million in federal funds each biennium budget cycle.
- It is important to note that under current Wisconsin law, no state funds may be used for the promotion or performance of abortion. (Wis. Stat. § 253.07(1)(b)).
- Family planning is cost effective. Each dollar spent on family planning services saves an estimated \$3.00 that would otherwise be spent in Medicaid costs for pregnancy-related care and newborn medical care. (The Alan Guttmacher Institute, 2004).

This information was shared with you by the Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health.

*For more information about legislation related to reproductive health or to support women's health contact WAWH at
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Fact Sheet

The Family Planning Ban Will Increase Unintended Pregnancies and Abortions in Wisconsin

- The Family Planning Ban does absolutely nothing to reduce the number of abortions in Wisconsin.
 - Lawmakers who are serious about reducing abortions should get serious about reducing unintended pregnancies.
 - Increasing access to family planning counseling and birth control greatly decreases the number of unintended pregnancies and the number of abortions.
 - Publicly funded family planning clinics in Wisconsin help women avoid 24,200 unintended pregnancies and 12,100 abortions each year.
- Family planning promotes maternal and child health and there is widespread public support for family planning funding.
 - According to the Center for Disease Control, family planning was one of the top TEN public health achievements of the 20th Century.
 - Family planning programs reduce the transmission of STIs, promote early detection of cancer, and increase the likelihood that a pregnant woman receives prenatal care.

The Family Planning Ban Guts Medical Ethics and Patient Protection Laws

- The Family Planning Ban guts existing patient protection law that requires physicians to provide patients with information about the availability of all alternate, viable medical modes of treatment and benefits and risks of the treatment. (Wis. Stat. §448.30).
- The Family Planning Ban eliminates the ability for health care providers to freely communicate non-directive information about pregnancy termination. This is a direct violation of the Federal Title X Family Planning program which *requires* all-options pregnancy counseling.

The Family Planning Ban is Unnecessary

- State and federal law already prohibit the use of public funds for the promotion or performance of abortion services. (Wis. Stat. § 253.07(1)(9b); The Hyde Amendment).
- The health care community overwhelmingly opposed this bill last session. The only proponents of this bill are special interest groups who oppose the use of birth control.
 - Special interest groups and politicians should not interfere with the delivery of medical care.