**[AB 206](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2017/proposals/reg/asm/bill/ab206)/**[**SB 154**](http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2017/proposals/sb154) **(University of Wisconsin Abortion Ban) Fact Sheet**

What does this legislation do?

**First**, the bill proposes significant restrictions on employees of the University of Wisconsin System and University of Wisconsin Hospitals and Clinics Authority (UWHCA) by prohibiting any such employees from doing any of the following within the scope of their employment:

* + Performing or assisting in an abortion (on University of Wisconsin property or elsewhere).
	+ Performing any services at a private entity where abortions are performed, unless it is a hospital.
	+ Training others, or receiving training, in the performance of abortion care.

**Second**, the bill proposes additional restrictions on the UW System or UWHCA by prohibiting either from using any of their institutional resources to:

* + Enter into a contract, agreement, or memorandum of understanding that arranges for any of the activities prohibited above.
	+ Assist with or extend liability coverage for any of the activities prohibited above.

Why is this bill problematic?

* Most importantly, if passed, this legislation would **jeopardize the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health’s national accreditation** for its OB/GYN residency training program. The residency program must be nationally accredited in order to continue training OB/GYN physicians. University officials have indicated that loss of their accreditation is a [very real possibility](http://host.madison.com/ct/news/local/govt-and-politics/election-matters/uw-bill-targeting-planned-parenthood-arrangement-would-jeopardize-ob-gyn/article_a55b428c-ce0e-5840-9205-b13fe008e6c6.html) should the bill become law.
* Wisconsin is **already facing an OB/GYN shortage, especially in** [**rural communities**](http://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/health-care/2016/10/26/wisconsin-addresses-shortage-rural-doctors/92064220/)**,** and any legislation that would undermine the ability of the University of Wisconsin to train OB/GYN’s here in Wisconsin will only exacerbate this shortage.
	+ The OB/GYN shortage in Wisconsin is dire. **1 in 3 Wisconsin counties lack an OB/GYN.**
	+ Nationally, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists estimates there will be between 6,000 and 8,800 fewer OB-GYNs than needed in the U.S. by 2020, and a shortage of approximately 22,000 by 2050.
* This shortage has real consequences for affected communities, as rural women [have less access to care and poorer health outcomes](http://www.acog.org/Resources-And-Publications/Committee-Opinions/Committee-on-Health-Care-for-Underserved-Women/Health-Disparities-in-Rural-Women) in general as compared to urban women.
* The bill would also **deny resident OB/GYN’s access to crucial medical training** for other women’s health care issues, including how to manage relatively common and serious maternal health care conditions, complications from abortions, and abortions that are necessary to protect the health of a pregnant woman.

How Does the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health Currently Comply with Accreditation Requirements for Abortion Training?

Currently, the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine allows residents participate in an optional family planning training rotation at a private reproductive health care clinic in order to receive the training that must be offered to residents as required by the school’s accreditation authority, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). This training affords residents important medical training that is necessary to manage relatively common and serious maternal health care conditions, complications from abortions, and abortions that are necessary to protect the health of a pregnant woman.

Residents who wish to not participate in this this training rotation for religious or moral reasons **are not required** to do so.

What are some other good sources of information about this issue?

The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) has a detailed [Committee Opinion](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwi9vsXW2aHTAhUSwGMKHWRRCakQFggcMAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.acog.org%2FResources-And-Publications%2FCommittee-Opinions%2FCommittee-on-Health-Care-for-Underserved-Women%2FAbortion-Training-and-Education&usg=AFQjCNFw8ikgE2dkHq_SR1KQZKEjD7JLxQ) regarding abortion training and education for medical students and residents that discusses statistics regarding abortion training and education and related public policies.

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has a [detailed paper](http://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramResources/220_OBGYN_Abortion_Training_Clarification.pdf) that clarifies its training requirements that OB/GYN residency programs must meet in order to maintain their accreditation.