

American Legion Auxiliary
New Mexico Girls State
Bill



Principal Author: Esther Wermer

Bill No: 15 Committee: G

Status:

Passed by: Committee House Senate Governor

Tabled by: Committee House Senate Governor

Other: _____

Simple Title of Bill: A Bill to Prohibit the Practice of Abortion after the 20th Week of Gestation

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HOUSE BILL

72nd SESSION – AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE –

2019

INTRODUCED BY

Esther Wermer

AN ACT

RELATING TO PROHIBITING THE PRACTICE OF ABORTION AFTER THE 20TH WEEK OF GESTATION

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NEW MEXICO GIRLS STATE:

Section 1: PROVISIONS -- Abortion providers in New Mexico are hereby prohibited from providing abortions to women after the 20th week of gestation of pregnancy, as

1 there is reasonable scientific evidence that a fetus experiences pain sensation at this
2 age, and abortions after twenty weeks become substantially more dangerous to the
3 health of the woman. For example, a twenty-week old fetus recoils in response to
4 stimuli, a reaction that would be a result of pain in a human adult.

5 **Section 2: DEFINITIONS** -- Abortion providers are defined as any hospital or abortion
6 clinic within the state of New Mexico that is currently licensed to provide abortions, as
7 well as any individual physicians who perform abortions. Abortion is defined as the
8 deliberate termination of a pregnancy by a physician. The 20th of week of gestation of
9 pregnancy is defined as twenty weeks from the last day of the mother's menstrual cycle.

10 **Section 3: EXCPETIONS** -- Abortion providers may legally provide abortions after the
11 20th week of gestation of pregnancy when a physician determines that an abortion
12 procedure is the best option to save a pregnant woman's life from a physical illness,
13 physical disorder, or physical injury, but not for an emotional wound.

14 **Section 4: ENFORCEMENT** -- Enforcement of this bill shall be overseen by the District
15 Operations Bureau sector of Health Facility Licensing and Certification of New Mexico.
16 Records of abortion providers shall be inspected yearly for compliance with this new
17 regulation.

18 **Section 5: FUNDING** -- Funds for the enforcement of this bill shall be allocated from the
19 New Mexico Department of Health budget.

20 **Section 6:** All laws in conflict with this legislation is hereby deemed null and void.