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LD 975

I am writing to you today to voice my opposition to LD 975, An Act to Repeal Laws Allowing Abortion and to Criminalize Abortion. My understanding is that this would:

-Ban all forms of abortion and contraception

Abortion is quite often a life saving medical procedure, that should be decided between a woman and doctor. How many women do you know that have had miscarriages? It is extremely common, although many women don't talk about. I immediately thought of seven (7) women in my immediate circle- friends, co-workers, family members. And then, I thought of four (4) more women that had experienced miscarriages. Fortunately they all received prompt medical care and were able to later have successful, healthy pregnancies.

Contraception is a person decision. It provides women control over their bodies. It allows them to decide when to have children. Utilizing birth control allowed me to become financially stable before bringing another person into this world. Every woman should have that same opportunity.

-Lighten the charges of aggravated assault on pregnant people.

Can you explain to me why this provision is included? Domestic violence is a serious issue. According to the CDC, the leading cause of death for pregnant women in the United States is homicide, accounting for 12% of all pregnancy-related deaths. Lightening charges of aggravated assault on pregnant people makes no sense, other than abject cruelty.

-Ban other reproductive health care services

Mental health

Surgical

Psychiatric services

I do not understand why anyone would want to ban mental health support or psychiatric services to pregnant women. Perinatal and postpartum depressions are extremely serious, extremely common, and dangerous. These services should be expanded, not banned.