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LD 682

I am against LD 682 for the following reasons:

1. It contains inaccuracies. The term "abortion" is used incorrectly within the bill which would cause confusion for health care providers. "Abortion" is a medical term; while it has taken on a different meaning when used in casual context, it already has a definition in the medical profession and should not be given a contradictory definition by lawmakers that do not have medical degrees.
2. Similarly, it is not the government's place to interfere with health care decisions. If a person does not have a medical degree and license to practice medicine then they have no business making medical decisions for anyone, especially not an entire group of people. In fact, it would be illegal to do so.
3. Research overwhelmingly supports that legal restrictions over voluntary terminations of pregnancy do not prevent them from occurring. Instead, they continue to happen, just with a higher rate of maternal fatalities. Criminalizing voluntary terminations of pregnancy will result in the very thing its supporters claim it will prevent: the ending of human lives. Women and girls will die. They already have in states that have taken this stance. Protecting life shouldn't only matter in the womb, it should matter for those that have reached their 12th birthday, their 21st birthday, their 80th birthday. There are better ways to protect fetuses than criminalizing voluntary terminations of pregnancy.