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LD 975

I strongly oppose LD 975 which criminalizes abortions, lessens charges on the assault of pregnant women and bans birth control and other healthcare measures for women. This is taking us a huge step backward in women's rights.

Not everyone that uses contraceptives uses them strictly for pregnancy prevention. Many use them to regulate cycles, control heavy periods, control acne, etc. Hormonal birth control can also lower the chances of reproductive cancers.

Especially in the current state of the world, many people are financially, mentally, or physically unable to care for children and they should not be forced to carry unwanted pregnancies. Some people choose not to have children because they have genetic and hereditary illnesses that they don't want to pass on. Young girls and women over 35 can often have complications in pregnancy or have pregnancies that result in birth defects or disabilities in the fetus. There are already too many children in foster care and this would add to it. Studies have shown that people who were adopted or in foster care are twice as likely to develop substance abuse disorders. This is already a big issue in our state and in the world. We do not need to add to this problem.

Not only that but a girl or woman who has been sexually assaulted should not have to carry a pregnancy that was the result of the rape. Life begins at birth not conception, a fetus is not viable outside the womb until 23 or 24 weeks gestation and many hospitals will not take pregnant patients to the labor floor before that time. Even so, babies born that early are severely at risk for long term health issues. Chemical pregnancies do not result in babies and Ectopic pregnancies can be life threatening as well, in both instances treatment includes abortion.

Miscarriage registries are absurd as well as fetal death certificates, a fetus is not covered by health insurance on its own until it is born. Most miscarriages happen by no fault of the birthing person and they should not be treated like a criminal for a natural process. It is not a person until it is born. We should be expanding on women's healthcare not minimizing and banning it. I strongly oppose LD975 ,do what is right and vote against this absurd bill and protect women's rights. If it's not your body its not your business.

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