

House Criminal Justice Committee

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House Bills 4833 and 4834

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This bill would ban the safest means to terminate a pregnancy from 14-18 weeks, forcing a physician to perform a procedure that poses a greater risk to the woman or forcing the woman to wait until 19 weeks to have an abortion. I am alarmed that there are politicians who would want to ban a safe, evidence-based procedure in order to force a woman to receive substandard care that presents risks to her health and future fertility. The physician-patient relationship is vital to the health and wellness of all of Michigan and would be undermined if this bill is passed.

This bill is also an insult to physicians and medical students in Michigan who spend countless hours learning how to treat patients in a safe manor. Why should I spend eight years of my life in medical school and residency if what I learn will have no bearing on the care of my future patients? It seems irrational to delegate the terms of a medical procedure to a proposal written by individuals who are not physicians. There already exists a physician shortage in the state of Michigan, and preventing doctors from practicing evidence based medicine and forcing them to substitute procedures that will cause harm to their patients will only cause more physicians to leave Michigan for states that respect the medical field. Even though I plan and hope to stay in Michigan as a physician, I would be forced to leave and practice medicine elsewhere if this bill would render me unable to provide the best and safest care for my patients.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Amanda Stacer and Madison Tustian