

Increasing Threats on Choice

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Type	Description	Number of states with this type of law	Number of new states (2011)
Abortion Bans After 12 or 20 Weeks	Completely outlaws all abortions, with no exception to protect the health of the patient. Some claim “fetal pain.” (Example: Federal “Partial-Birth” Abortion Ban – declared constitutional by Supreme Court in 2007)	20	5
Mandatory Delay Laws	Delays abortion until after a patient receives/undergoes required materials/procedures and then often a waiting period (typically at least 24 hours). Especially dangerous to single parents or those who live far from a clinic. (Examples: mandatory sonogram or ultrasound laws)	32	6
Counseling Bans and Gag Rules	Prohibit federally- or state-funding organizations from referring patients to abortion service providers or counseling them on their full range of options.	21	5 measures in 3 states
Insurance Prohibition	Require abortion patients to purchase a separate policy and pay additional premium to receive abortion coverage. Some laws apply only to public employees, but others do not.	24	12 measures in 9 states
Conscience Clauses	Also known as “right of refusals” – allow people and institutions to refuse to provide, pay for, counsel, or refer patients for treatments to which they have a moral objection.	47	0
Public Funding for Abortion	Make abortions unavailable to public employees, recipients of Medicare, military employees, and others. (Example: Hyde Amendment prohibits any federal funds to be used for abortion)	33	4 measures in 3 states
Parental Notification Laws	Force a young woman to tell a parent about an abortion. Especially dangerous to victims of abuse, rape, or incest.	44	1
Targeted Regulations of Abortion Providers	(TRAP) Impose unnecessary and costly regulations on abortion providers and not other medical professionals in obvious attempt to drive doctors out of practice or make abortions more expensive/difficult to obtain	45	9 measures in 8 states