



Senate Introduces Extreme 20-Week Abortion Ban That Interferes with Women's Personal Decisions

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Statement by Jessica Arons, President & CEO of the Reproductive Health Technologies Project, on the introduction of a bill banning abortion care after 20 weeks.

“Yesterday, Senator Lindsay Graham (R-SC) introduced a bill that would ban abortion care after 20 weeks with only narrow exceptions to save a pregnant woman’s life or in cases of rape or incest that have been reported to legal authorities. This is a cruel measure that would only make things harder for a woman who is already facing difficult circumstances.

Regardless of how one feels about abortion, we can all agree that our laws should support a woman’s personal decisions and protect her health and safety. This abortion ban fails to do that.

Frankly, not every pregnancy ends the way a family hopes it will. Some end in miscarriage; sometimes a woman develops serious complications; and sometimes she finds out there’s something wrong with the pregnancy.

There are also women who need to end their pregnancy for other reasons but who are forced to delay accessing abortion care because of difficulties such as financial barriers that have been placed in their path by politicians, like restrictions that withhold insurance coverage for abortion. We should be working to eliminate barriers to abortion services, not erecting more barriers to care.

Members of Congress have no business meddling in important personal medical and family decisions. It is not their place to take away a woman’s ability to make her own decision by passing restrictions that make abortion harder to get.

When a woman needs to end her pregnancy, it is important that she has access to safe medical care, not roadblocks to that care. We urge the Senate to oppose this unconscionable attack on women’s health.”

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