



See No Fetus, Hear No Fetus?

CWA Urges the Senate to Oppose HB 2492 - Ultrasound Bill

A bill has been introduced in the Illinois General Assembly to prevent ultrasounds from being performed unless ordered by a doctor. The bill makes it a crime for a doctor to refer a pregnant mother for a keepsake ultrasound.

Planned Parenthood, the group behind the bill, claims to be concerned for the woman and the baby. Yet they vehemently battle health and safety measures for women, such as informed consent (HB 1453), and abortion clinic regulations that would simply elevate them to the level of animal clinics!

HB 2492 attacks fetal ultrasound centers, which are gaining in popularity across the country. These ultrasound centers or “boutiques” provide elective 3D/4D ultrasound images (3D: 3-dimensional photos; 4D: moving videos) of a developing baby, providing mothers a unique and precious bonding experience. She will see her baby sucking his thumb, wiggling her toes and yawning!

HB 2492, more importantly, is a direct attack against pregnancy care centers. Many provide ultrasounds for abortion-minded clients. A survey conducted by Focus on the Family in 2003 indicated that **79 percent** of abortion-minded mothers changed their minds after viewing their baby’s ultrasound (<http://www.family.org/pregnancy/ultrasound/a0029641.cfm>).

Ultrasounds were first used on pregnant women 40 years ago and they are now used for many other applications. Ultrasounds of fetuses and pregnant women have been evaluated at great length for these 40 years and, to date, no significant harmful effects have been demonstrated. The slight temperature changes that have been noted in a small number of controlled studies are significantly less than those associated with exercise during pregnancy or taking a hot bath.

Will the General Assembly ban hot baths and exercise for pregnant women next?

It’s no secret that Planned Parenthood is the nation’s largest abortion provider. Planned Parenthood knows ultrasounds take away from its abortion business.

Ultrasounds humanize pre-born babies, dispelling the “blob of tissue” myth. This evidently worries Planned Parenthood and abortion-minded legislators. CWA strongly urges a NO vote on HB 4292.

Concerned Women for America is the nation’s largest public policy women’s organization.

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