

Comprehensive Unintended Pregnancy and Abortion Prevention Bill

Legislative Session 2004

Lead Author: Senator John Marty

Disclaimer: The following highlights were taken from a draft of the bill. Final bill language may be slightly different than below.

“A bill for an act relating to prevention of abortion and unintended pregnancy; increasing access to family planning services; expanding educational efforts to prevent sexually transmitted infections and unintended pregnancies; increasing wholesome after school activities for youth.”

Bill Highlights

State Based Family Planning

- Require MDH to ensure comprehensive family planning services are available in every county.
- Provide additional funding
- If the federal waiver is granted, appropriations should total \$5 million/ year for Family Planning Special Projects(FPSP).
- If the federal waiver is denied, FPSP should total \$20 million/year.

Community Outreach for Family Planning Information

- Train and require MFIP caseworkers to provide family planning information and referrals. Funding for materials and training should accompany this as needed.
- Abortion providers are required to give family planning and contraception information to women who have had an abortion.
- Require MDH to maintain a website with accurate FDA-approved methods of contraception, as well as regional listings for subsidized family planning providers.
- Provide funding to MDH for public education to promote awareness and proper usage of emergency contraception.

School-based Initiatives

- Amend the ENABL law so that it includes comprehensive sex education, promotes abstinence, and emphasizes male responsibility. Increase state funding to \$1.2 million.
- Reinstate the After-School Enrichment Grants, which were repealed by the 2003 Legislature.
- Require the Commissioner of Education to develop a plan that ensures all school districts provide comprehensive family life and sexuality education by 2008. This includes education in grades K-12 that is age appropriate and respects community values and family communication; that develops skills in communication, decision making and conflict resolution; that contributes to healthy relationships; that provides human development and sexuality education that is medically accurate and age appropriate; that promotes responsible sexual behavior including promotion of abstinence; that addresses the use of contraception; and that promotes individual responsibility
- HIV/AIDS/STI Regional Training Sites
 - Restore funding of Regional Training Sites that was repealed by the 2003 Legislature
 - Rename training sites to “Regional Training Sites for Comprehensive Family Life and Sexuality Education in Schools.”
 - Expand the program from four sites to six to eight sites.
 - Add language to the original statute to address not only HIV/AIDS, but also unintended pregnancy and sexuality education.