

Favorable Statement HB1401
Public Health – Abortion – Informed Consent
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As a retired registered nurse, I am strongly in favor of HB1401.

Normal and standard procedure for medical and surgical interventions require Informed Consent. At least, it's normal and standard except when it comes to abortion. Women deserve better.

Medical abortion involves the taken of several doses of abortion drugs. Use of those drugs is limited to 11 weeks.

Surgical abortions vary depending upon the gestational age of the pregnancy.

Suction and Aspiration is used for up to 13 weeks.

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) is used after 13 weeks and up to about 24 weeks (2 months to about 6 months).

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E) is also used after 24 weeks but is more complicated and can take several days.

All of these abortion methods have risks of severe injury up to and including death. Some of the adverse events include hemorrhaging, ruptured uterus, torn vagina, torn cervix, sepsis, infertility and death. Other health risks include mental illness and cancer.

Informed Consent is required for the most basic procedures that carry minimal risk. Medical and surgical abortions have serious risks and health concerns that should not be kept hidden for the sake of profits. Women deserve the same respect and care when it comes to abortion as is afforded to all patients for any other medical and surgical intervention. Qualified providers must be required to provide complete information to women and obtain signed, written informed consent prior to providing abortion drugs to a woman or performing a surgical abortion on a woman.

Please support good medical practice and women's equity in health care. **I strongly recommend a favorable report for HB1401.**