

SUMMARY

This bill ensures continued access to Medication Abortion in California by shielding manufacturers, distributors, authorized health care providers, or patients from civil or criminal liability or professional disciplinary action, for accessing, mailing, shipping, receiving, transporting, distributing, or administering Medication Abortion drugs.

BACKGROUND

In 2000, the Food and Drug Administration approved mifepristone for use in the termination of pregnancy. Mifepristone is usually used in combination with a second drug, called Misoprostol, to terminate a pregnancy. Misoprostol can also be used on its own to terminate a pregnancy. When either Mifepristone or Misoprostol are used in combination, or when Misoprostol is used alone to terminate a pregnancy, this is referred to as a “Medication Abortion,” to distinguish it from a procedural abortion.

Today, providers and researchers estimate that over [60% of all abortions](#) in the United States are done using Medication Abortion. With over twenty years of available data, Medication Abortion has proven to be remarkably safe and effective. Medication Abortion has only a [0.4% risk](#) of major complications, and a mortality rate of only .00064%. To put these figures in perspective, this is lower than the mortality rate associated with [Viagra](#), which carries a .0049% mortality rate. Using Medication Abortion is also far safer than carrying a pregnancy to term, as the U.S. has an overall maternal mortality rate of .0329%.

Medication Abortion allows people to get reproductive care as early as possible when it is safest, least expensive, and least invasive. It plays an important role in reducing barriers and

promoting equitable access to healthcare, particularly for those who live in rural and underserved communities.

At a time when access to abortion care is under attack across this nation, California, the Attorney General and lawmakers must remain committed to ensuring that reproductive healthcare is a fundamental right protected and secured for all Californians.

BILL DETAILS

AB 54 will continue to safeguard the constitutional and statutory right to choose and obtain abortions in the state of California by protecting access to Mifepristone and Misoprostol.

This bill shields manufacturers, distributors, authorized health care providers, or individuals from civil or criminal liability or professional disciplinary action, for accessing, mailing, shipping, receiving, transporting, distributing, or administering Medication Abortion in accordance with the law of this state, applicable and accepted standards of care, and good faith compliance.

SUPPORT

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