

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 2313

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Hearing Date: April 7, 2021 8:00 AM

Jessica Tiedt

Self, Chief Court Administrator

Georgetown, TX

I do not support this bill, it does nothing to help reduce abortions. Please do not pass this bill out of committee. Thank you.

Kaden Aubert

Self

Richmond, TX

I support this legislation. Thanks for your consideration.

Amanda Reyna

self

San Antonio, TX

I oppose HB 2313. Crisis pregnancy centers are not required to provide factual information, there by not allowing the full scope of options to be known. Additionally, providing resources to licenced medical service providers would remove the need for CPCs. Counseling should happen between a person and their doctor.

Laila Khalili

Myself

Houston, TX

I had an abortion when I was 21. I was in college full time, working full time, and had undiagnosed depression and PTSD. I was in no way ready to have a child, and I knew I wanted an abortion. I didn't find out I was pregnant until I was 9 weeks along.

I am in my thirties now, a homeowner, leading a happy and fulfilling life, engaged to the love of my life, working to better my community. My abortion was a blessing. It enabled me to finish college, work, and take care of myself and my family.

Why is this your business? Why are you spending the little time you have in session creating cruel, unnecessary legislation that hurts your constituents? This legislation is a violation of my privacy and my constitutional right to access health care. It is an insult to me and every single person who has had an abortion, to every person in this state.

I promise you that you know and love people who have had an abortion. Vote against this legislation. For me. For your loved ones. For all Texans who deserve to make personal health care decisions with dignity and respect.

Vote no.

Maureen Johnson

Printed on: May 12, 2021 6:56 PM

self medical health professional

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 2313 which requires patients seeking abortion to get counseling from a crisis pregnancy center. This bill oversteps the parameters of the government by forcing an unnecessary step to try to pressure pregnant women in an emotionally vulnerable state against taking action in their own, and the world's best interest, by not bringing an unwanted child into the world.

I strongly urge you to vote against HB 2313.

Maureen Johnson

Lora Wildenthal

self professor

Houston, TX

Oh my gosh, this is the Handmaids' Tale bill! Texas women should be forced to reveal their private and medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers?? WHY??

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

This is purely an effort to intimidate and obstruct women who have decided that an abortion is right for them.

Too bad we can't get this kind of intrusion into privacy when it comes to gun purchasing laws...that was sarcasm.

Matt Kaufmann

self; computer scientist

Austin, TX

Many reasonable people differ in their views on abortion. Government should avoid using its heavy hand in such matters, so I oppose this bill.

Danielle Lail

self

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide. Crisis pregnancy centers are not real medical facilities - they trick women into waiting past the abortion time period, they protest outside of schools and spread medical lies.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. Extra steps are not needed.

Deanna Koblenz

self

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Tomball, TX

"Required resource access assistance" is vague, when not spelled out here, in the one line of your proposed bill. Seeking an abortion is NOT something gleefully sought. It is a CHOICE made of desperation, by an already living human being, which for no reason, be a decision resulting in a "civil penalty" or indeed, a "criminal offense", as spelled out in a number of other bills about abortion. An unplanned, unwanted pregnancy is a devastation, not a wonderfully joyful experience, as being pregnant should be. What if someone you love, a daughter, a relative, a friend, were to be confronted with such overwhelming pain? The person, who would be destroyed is the one alive, not the cells inside her body. Shouldn't SHE count? Shouldn't SHE matter to you, as a representative of this state? Perhaps better to show care for those of us already here. We are the ones who need you. Thank you for listening.

lee cisneros

self

houston, TX

This bill is very important and will serve to testify to the beauty of human life for all Texans. The people of Texas have voted for Life over and over again. They seek justice for the unborn, those who do not have a voice, those that are innocent. The natural law that we, as humans, need to be aware of is the same law that the Declaration of Independence refers to; "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator certain inalienable rights, of which are Life, Liberty and The Pursuit of Happiness." The first mentioned is Life. It is a truth that no man or government should allow to be ignored or dissolved. Life, the word seems so simple, but yet holds more meaning than that of the whole world. It is up to us to protect it, cherish it, nurture it, and promote it. It will be what future generations remember us by or judge us by. It will be a symbol of what our state stood for and what was in our hearts. Do not be afraid to stand up for Life. It is the most important thing we can do.

Mary Selby

Self

Austin, TX

I would like to make my voice heard in opposition to HB 2313. We need to support and care for our women and children and doctors, not make them criminals. Please stop stripping reproductive rights. Again I stand in opposition of HB2313. Thank you for your time.

Jennie Kuzdzal

self / biologist

Houston, TX

My name is Jennie Kuzdzal, and I oppose House Bill 2313.

It is impossible to predict what situations might arise during pregnancy, and I would not want to be pregnant in a state where women have lost the right to make their own health care decisions. As a mother of two, I believe that these decisions should be made by an individual and her doctor, not the government. HB 2313 would insert a third-party into the decision-making process and violate a patient's privacy by forcing her to give private information to an outside party. Pregnancy carries inherent health risks, and no one should be forced to unwillingly endure these. Women should be able to maintain their privacy while obtaining health care.

I urge you to defend women's rights by rejecting House Bill 2313.

Kim White

Self; homeschool parent and social worker

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Royse City, TX

Pregnancy resource centers offer life giving options and resources and are bending over backwards to help women in crisis pregnancies!! So many women feel forced to receive an abortion and so many of them change their minds after receiving support, encouragement and resources from pregnancy resource centers!!

Jasmine Pena

Self- Epidemiologist

Houston, TX

My name is Jasmine Pena and I oppose House Bill 2313. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. This bill would require inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. People in this state have a right to privacy- Medical decisions and the health status of private citizens should remain completely confidential. I urge you to oppose HB 2313 so Texans may maintain their right to privacy is all regards. Thank you.

Julie Campbell

none

AUSTIN, TX

This bill frames the discussion about (against) abortion as assistance. If assistance is the true intent of this bill how will mother and child be assisted after the child is born? Will the child be fostered by the state? Will the mother be given prenatal care through the state? Will the mother (and child if she is capable of keeping the child) be "assisted" with housing or food or daycare? I thought not.

This is not assistance just Big government being a big bully.

Susan Taylor

self

Canyon Lake, TX

Re HB 2313: This bill would set up inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. It piles on to already passed rules needlessly, all in the name of a political push to end what is legal.

Reject this bill and preserve a woman's legal access to abortion.

Veronica J Esparza, Mrs

Self/ retired educator & Counselor

El Paso, TX

All abortions must be criminalized

Barbara Garbacz

Self - retired

Dallas, TX

This is an attack on women's rights and would force women to find an unsafe practitioner in the dark alleys. Women have the right to a safe and healthy abortion if they choose one. If the supporters of this bill truly believed in pro-life, there would be bills to provide pre- and post-natal care, nutritious food supplies, medical coverage for preventative care, education, an increase in minimum wage, eliminate the death penalty, etc.

Legislating abortion is not something the TX legislature should even be involved with - it is extreme intrusion into a woman's

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decision on her health care. Most Texans support access to safe, legal abortion. Instead the legislature should be addressing the multitude of other priority issues facing Texas, such as: COVID, the energy collapse during February's storm. It's time to stop these attacks on women's rights to choose. Maybe start a bill that requires vasectomies instead!

Marlene Rubin

Self/Retired

Houston, TX

NO to HB 2313

Abortion by a licensed and appropriately trained physician should be allowed up to the 12th week of pregnancy and even later if the mother's life is in danger.

Debra Leff

Self

Austin, TX

I, Debra Leff, am against this bill. Women are making difficult decisions as it is related to terminating pregnancy. It sets up another barrier that will be required. I also am against keeping a "database" of names. We have so many leaks of private information, it is unfair to women to have to agree to this. I oppose this bill.

Laurie Coffin

N/A

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 2313. HB 2313 would violate the privacy of Texas women and their relationship with their healthcare provider.

According to a recent Hart Research poll, 77% of Texans agree that whether someone has private or government funded healthcare, it's important for every Texan to be able to get the full range of reproductive healthcare, including annual screenings, birth control, pregnancy tests, and abortion.

It is time for the Texas Legislature to stop violating the privacy of Texas women and stop regulating our healthcare decisions. I urge you to reject these bills and focus on delivering solutions to the real problems Texans currently face.

Lisa Stone

self: educator

Houston, TX

I join all those--a majority of Texans--who oppose political efforts to attack women's health care by diminishing abortion rights and access.

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

I ask you to oppose HB 2313, as well as all other HBs that seek to limit abortion rights and access.

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Natalie Roehen
Self, Teacher
San Antonio, TX

I believe that passing this bill would place an undue burden on those seeking an abortion in Texas, and therefore should not be passed. This is much akin to previous policies such as the 24-hour waiting period and the mandatory undergoing of an ultrasound before performing an abortion. These kinds of policies are less about giving patients informed choices in their healthcare or anything related to the welfare of the patient: these are only for the purpose of persuading patients to not undergo an abortion or preventing them from doing so in the first place, and are thus more for the benefits of politicians and other third parties who should not be involved in an individual's healthcare at all. In addition, these policies can often exacerbate the emotional, physical, and financial turbulence that can accompany an abortion, especially if patients have to pay out of their own pocket for this legally-required "resource access assistance". These types of measures are unnecessary in providing safe and legal abortion, a process that the majority of Texans support and would like to see continue unhampered by bills such as these.

Isabel Ray, Mrs.
self; communications
Austin, TX

I oppose HB 2313. This bill does not have a medical purpose and in fact it violates the privacy of Texans' healthcare decisions by making available their details to unlicensed people who are not medical providers. Abortion providers already confirm that each of their patients are informed about the resources and options available to them; requiring additional "counseling" before getting an abortion provides no benefit to patients. This bill puts barriers in the way of healthcare. I oppose HB 2313 and ask that the committee members vote against it.

Carol Ortiz, Ms.
self/retired
Montgomery, TX

I OPPOSE HB 2313. Please vote NO, do not advance this bill out of committee.

Danna Ghafir
Self
Sugar Land, TX

My name is Danna Ghafir, and I am a medical student in Texas, and I oppose HB 2313. I'm writing to urge you to support bills that improve women's health care in Texas and oppose the bills that do not, and HB 2313 will have horrible consequences for the health of Texas women.

We are taught in medical school that, as future physicians, we must advocate for the fundamental principles of autonomy, social justice, and the primacy of patient welfare. HB 2313 violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. As a medical student with expertise in the science of reproductive healthcare, I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2313 and all the anti-abortion bills that will prove to be extremely dangerous to the health of Texans, including my future patients.

Jennifer Conner, MRS.
self; music teacher
The Woodlands, TX

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I strongly oppose HB 2313. This bill requires an absurd amount of non-medical effort before an abortion. Requiring a woman to make a phone call to a NON-medical hotline for the purposes of convincing her not to have an abortion is ridiculous. The number a pregnant woman calls connects her with non-medical people, generally associated with a religious organization whose purpose is to stop an abortion. Does this number offer to adopt the child once born? Does the person at this number offer to pay for prenatal care and the birth? The number the pregnant woman calls does not offer real help or solutions to her issues. A woman ready to terminate a pregnancy needs medical advice from an actual medical professional or real monetary or interpersonal assistance, not some bogus counseling session. It's overreach by the government. There are no other medical decisions a human has to make where they need to call a hotline with non-medical personal giving advice.

OPPOSE HB 2313.

Carrie Todd

Self

Ft w, TX

I oppose this bill.

Kathleen Davis

Self, Office Manager

DALLAS, TX

My name is Kathleen Davis and I oppose bill HB2313. This bill seems in direct conflict with HIPAA laws . All this will do is cause women to practice self abortion or visit an unsanitary place to have this performed which can lead to loss of life for the woman. Making a woman speak to someone who isn't her medical professional is not legal even if you pass this bill. Place yourself (walk a mile in someone else's shoes) in what a woman goes through when making this tough decision. It is not easy but when the final decision is made it should be safe and legal. Making abortions unavailable doesn't make them miraculously disappear, they will still be there no matter what so they need to be safe and legal. Thank you for your consideration on opposing HB2313.

Sylvia Campbell

self

The Woodlands, TX

Dear Committee Members,

I encourage you to oppose HB 2313. This bill piles on impediments to a woman in the very difficult circumstance of considering an abortion. It is not any easy decision for anyone. But it is her body, and other people should not try to interfere at a time when she is most in need.

Thank you,
Sylvia Campbell

Lorri Haden

Self/Retired

Austin, TX

My name is Lorri Haden, I'm representing myself, and I oppose HB 2313. This bill violates Texas women's right to privacy in making intensely personal medical decisions by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

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I urge you to vote NO on HB 2313.

Sherry Williams, Mrs

Self / Self Employed Realtor

Bay City, TX

My comments relate to several bills - HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760, all of which are attempts to make it harder for women to access a safe procedure that should be a decision between the woman and her health care provider. As a young woman I relied on Planned Parenthood and similar women's health services to give me access to affordable family planning care. I had several unintended pregnancies that I chose to terminate. At the time there were no obstacles; I was able to receive the care I needed without obstructions. I chose to have two children when I was ready to be a mother. I fear for Texan women who are finding it more difficult now to access the care and services they need.

Christine Hurley

self

Houston, TX

My name is Christine Hurley and I oppose House Bill 2313. This bill is invasive and unnecessary. An individual's healthcare decisions are to be kept confidential with their doctor and a third party database has inherent security flaws in it. There is absolutely no reason this should be done -- there are no benefits and only increased security risks of personal information being vulnerable. Reject this unnecessary bill that wastes time, resources, and is invasive to a person's private medical decisions.

Kaylan Smith

self

Houston, TX

It is appalling as a woman to hear my government representatives try to push legislature forward that would set women back by 50 years. This extremist agenda and HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760 are bills that are unnecessary. I do not understand why conservative representatives continue to push anti-abortion laws when they have shown time and time again, they don't care about the welfare of the mothers or babies born.

I would like a government that focuses on real problems with our healthcare. How about the number of uninsured Texans? Children that need medical care? Children that are below the poverty line and often suffer food insecurity?

Neil Cohen

S/E

Austin, TX

You anti-abortionists are like a carpenter whose only tool is a sledge hammer. Whenever you're faced with a construction job, you smash everything to pieces. If you really want to reduce abortions, you should adopt measures to help pregnant women and mothers of newborns. See the conservative column Ross Douthat -- What Has the Pro-Life Movement Won? You should ""brainstorm all the community support systems that would need to be stronger in a world where abortion is illegal: mental health services, addiction-recovery programs, affordable child care." <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/02/opinion/pro-life-movement-14th-amendment.html>. To criminalize abortion without such measures is not only ineffective -- women facing impossible choices will manage to get abortions -- but cruel, and leads to the wasted lives of helpless children. Ironic that you guys claim to believe in personal freedom -- such as the freedom not to wear a mask when that simple measure might save lives, except when it's the freedom of a woman to make one of the most important choices in her life. Instead of criminalizing abortions, how about criminalizing guys who get women pregnant when they don't want to be?

Crystal Gonzalez

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Self - resident of San Antonio, TX

San Antonio, TX

My name is Crystal Gonzalez and I oppose House Bill 2313 because it restricts access to abortion.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

I care about abortion access because every person has a right to choose the size of their family.

Christine Middleton

Self Retired

Corpus Christi, TX

I also oppose this bill. Introducing a third party to a doctor patient relationship is a privacy violation. It makes what should be a private decision between a woman and her doctor that much more stressful.

Michele Scott

Self

Snyder, TX

My name is Michele Scott and I oppose House Bill 2313.

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

There is no legitimate reason to add additional counseling to the process of obtaining an abortion. No other medical procedure is regulated in this way. Medical decisions are made by patient and doctor and **MUST** remain that way.

I urge you to reject this bill.

Michael Weaver

self, retired

The Woodlands, TX

Please oppose this bill, which puts unreasonable and archaic roadblocks up for pregnant women. In a state where social services, education and help for underprivileged families is underfunded, bills like this are a massive waste of taxpayers' dollars and of your time.

Ashley Shahan

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Self

Fulshear, TX

We need to protect the life of the unborn!!!! It's time Texas takes a stand to protect life and do all we can to protect the unborn!!

Ashley Shahan

DORA VANN

SELF RETIRED

SAN ANTONIO, TX

My name is Dora Vann. I am intelligent enough that I have a drivers license, pay taxes, worked for 30 years and retired, went to collage. I do not need anyone else in my personal decisions once I have discussed it with my health care professional. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. This bill is not needed and is only a political stalling method. Ban this bill.

Cindy Fountain

self/merchandiser

Cleburne, TX

I oppose HB 2313. It is a violation of privacy and dignity to a person who is seeking an abortion in Texas. This is not even close to acting on democracy in a republic. And, it is amazing that the main advocates of low taxes and small government are fine with spending more than 13 and 1/2 million dollars, all for the purpose to inflict authoritarian control on their fellow Texans.

Rex George

self

FLOWER MOUND, TX

This bill is another bill that will attempt to regulate abortion, not end it in the State of Texas. Support HB 3326 and end abortion in Texas by providing our pre-born neighbor (Texan) equal protection under the Constitution. Reinstate the current criminal laws as written in the Texas Penal Code. Texas has the right to defy Roe v Wade, which is not the law of the land. It is in itself unconstitutional. Further, Texas has the right to reinstate its criminal statute and immediately end abortion. Liberal states defy federal drug and immigration law and saving a life of a child from murder is vastly more important than these laws. As our representatives, you have the power to end abortion, saving thousands of lives annually OR you may continue to allow it and in doing so you take the responsibility for those lives. Please allow HB 3326 to be heard and abolish abortion in Texas. Respectfully Submitted.

VANESSA LOZADA

SELF; HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION

Fort Worth, TX

My name is Vanessa Lozada, and I oppose House Bill 2313. Though I've never had an abortion, I have considered it. Getting pregnant while on birth control as a teenager, I made the choice to be a struggling single mom. Though I didn't choose to terminate, it's important that I had that choice. This bill is unconstitutional and creates unnecessary hurdles for those who DO make the choice to terminate their pregnancy. Medical providers cannot and should not be held accountable for properly caring for their patient, no matter what the decision may be. Bills like this will not stop abortions. It will only make those seeking one go underground, and take even bigger risks to access this healthcare. I urge you to reject this legislation.

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Staci Mendelsohn, Mrs.

self

Plano, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Lori Boyter

Self

Haltom City, TX

I absolutely support this bill. I work at a pregnancy crisis center where we give the girls/women all the information they need to make an informed decision. Many are shocked to find out how abortions are performed and appreciate having that information. This is very vital and should be a law.

Theresa Garza, Ms.

self- clerk

San Antonio, TX

Until all women have equal, unfettered, guaranteed access to well-paying jobs, monetary support from the biological father of their child, good schools for the child, unlimited safe childcare, protection from abusive partners, easily accessible 24 hour safe transportation, and quality healthcare for themselves and their children: no entity (person, organization or law) who is not the pregnant woman should have any say in her personal decision to have a child or terminate a pregnancy. Period. Until all other support systems are in place & guaranteed, safe abortion access is essential.

Linda L. .Kenner

SELF

Richardson, TX

Texas women deserve the right to choose abortion and receive access assistance before and after abortion is performed.

Danna Halff

self

San Antonio, TX

Please vote AGAINST This bill. Delaying requested healthcare is a government overreach.

Eric D.

Self, investor

Austin, TX

My name is Eric and I oppose HB 2313.

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I oppose HB 2313. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Access to safe medical services of any kind, including abortion, are critical to the health of our community.

This frivolous bill wastes the precious time of the Texas Legislature, please reject it and move on to more important matters that can help all Texans.

Thank you.

Elisa Gonzalez

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. This invasion of privacy smacks of uncontrolled government.

Shawn Troxell, Ms

Self

New Braunfels, TX

To whomever reads this:

I am very much against HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760. My representative, knows my opinion. He believes, like the supporters of these bills, that their religious beliefs should be forced upon all of us.

They believe life begins at conception. Science proves it does not.

Therefore, these bills cannot become laws because they infringe upon my rights. There can be no using religion to make a law. Don't you agree?

In denying women the right to choose you are condemning many of us to a harder life, with more obstacles, often shamed as a single mother, unable to find a good paying job and hours that work while also raising a child.

It seems to me that you simply don't care about us.

What I do to my body is not your choice.

NOT your choice.

The choice is mine.

You must not allow these bills up for discussion, much less a vote. Too many men, too many religious men, too many white old religious men simply cannot be allowed to debate a woman's right to choose.

I'm not alone in my anger over these bills.

So I will be watching what's happening and sharing with my family, friends, and former students.

Georgia Keysor

Self - Retired

Austin, TX

I oppose the anti-choice bills that are scheduled for a hearing in the House Public Health Committee this Wednesday, April 7th. These bills take freedoms away from Texans and would allow lawsuits against providers and individual people. If abortion is essentially outlawed, it will lead to many unnecessary deaths in this state, which is incredible considering our stellar record of

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maternal mortality. This mismanaged state's bungled response to COVID has killed over 50,000 Texans to date. Our vaccination program is among the two or three worst in the nation. And you can't even keep the lights on. I oppose House Bills 1280, 1515, 2313, 2337, 3218, and 3760 because I think medical decisions of this nature should be between a woman, her family, her pastor and her physician. I do not understand why you think a politician or a bureaucrat needs to be part of that discussion.

Adrienne Abrahamson

self (tutor)

Roanoke, TX

My name is Adrienne Abrahamson and I oppose House Bill 2313. I am very concerned that time and effort continues to be spent on attempting to ban and/or restrict abortion. Instead, I believe legislators should be spending resources on addressing current emergencies and serious issues that affect so many living Texans. Abortion is healthcare, and our lawmakers should be expanding access to healthcare, not restricting it further. I strongly oppose House Bill 2313, as this bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. Additionally, abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. The Texas House needs to focus on the real crises facing Texans like access to health care, responding to COVID-19, maternal mortality, and the energy crisis, not Dan Patrick's political agenda.

Brandy Chambers

Perkins Coie

GARLAND, TX

I am a mother. I am an employee. I am a wife. I decided to become a mother well after I fell in love with my husband and married. I decided to become a mother when we could financially handle another mouth to feed and body to clothe. I decided to become a mother when I knew I was ready to be a mother. This was MY decision. I am a grown adult who should be the only one making decisions about my body, my health, and my readiness to be a mother. This should NOT be the power of the state. This bill is gross overreach of the state's power over women. I firmly oppose such a bill and am embarrassed that Texas legislators continue to pursue the enslavement of women by denying them health care and autonomy to make life changing decisions without government interference.

Moniqa Paultet

TEA Fund

Richardson, TX

My name is Moniqa Paultet and I am a native Texan serving on the board of directors for TEA Fund. I'm writing today in opposition of HB 2313. This bill would violate patients' right to privacy and has no foundation in medical need. This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. I urge you to reject this invasive bill.

Maureen Powers

retired

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill for the reason that it imposes even more hurdles on women/girls, who are sentient beings, the right to access healthcare for an unwanted pregnancy.

Jesus Archuleta

Jesus Christ

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Big Spring, TX

I couldn't be there to speak tomorrow so thank you for the opportunity to send my message via the internet. For 48 years we have allowed the murder of the unborn and today we continue to allow for it. We must ask ourselves what are doing in regards to abortion, are we try to end abortion or are we just going to continue to regulate it. All of these pro-life bills but forward do nothing to end the Holocaust of the unborn and continue to prove that a Republican dominant house goal is to never end abortion but to chip away at the majority of it so they seem like heroes. We are no longer going to tolerate that line of thinking. We demand abolition and we demand it now. You may claim to be pro-life but your actions have proven over and over again that you are not. The only bill that will end abortion immediately in the state of Texas is HB 3326. It provides the necessary equal protection from the conception that the unborn baby deserves. What will you do to end abortion in the state of Texas? Why won't you give HB3326 a hearing? Why do you continue to allow this Holocaust to take place? You might not answer me on this issue but you will have to answer to God. He will hold you accountable for what you have allowed to happen and continue to happen. I pray you to end this. God has placed you in your positions for a reason, to punish evil and to reward those who do good. The longer you allow for child sacrifice to continue the longer your asking for God's wrath to abide on you. 55,000 unborn babies yearly demand that they get the justice and protection they deserve, when will you give it to them?

Amanda Stoffels

self-educator

Keller, TX

Please continue to work towards banning all abortions in Texas. The act of abortion is murder of innocent lives. So many young girls do not realize there are families out there that want children but can not have their own. Adoption is such a better choice! Please help pass this law so that pregnant women can see the other options other than having their baby killed.

Josh Higgins

self, graphic designer

Spring, TX

My name is Josh Higgins and I oppose HB 2313. I believe this bill violates Texan's rights to privacy especially when it comes to health care and health matters. I urge you all to vote against this and similar bills.

Lauren fazio

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Lauren Fazio, and I oppose House Bill 2313. As a proud Texan and US citizen, I value the ability to make choices related to my own body and my own family planning. We in Texas value the ability to make choices that benefit our households and strongly oppose the government from developing policy that takes away our personal freedoms and choice. In the same way we value private businesses to regulate themselves, we as people should be able to regulate our bodies thus impacting our present and futures. The consequences of this proposed bill would directly impact women's lives, increase death in women (in attempts to make the best choices they can for themselves and their families left to manage in unsafe ways), and disproportionately impact women of color across Texas. This bill will add unnecessary and unhelpful barriers to women who are doing the best they can for themselves and their futures. Anti-choice legislation has NO place in Texans' lives and directly violates our local values and constitution. I strongly urge you all to reject HB 2313.

Karen Wells

Self

Houston, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and

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forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Lucy Wimmer

Self

AUSTIN, TX

My name is Lucy Wimmer and I oppose HB 2313.

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Amy Hunt

self, marketing consultant

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because Texas women should be able to make this decision on her own without the interference of the government. Abortion isn't an easy decision, but women should have the right to a safe, legal abortion if they need one.

Katie Palin

self, cashier

Arlington, TX

Every person has the right to access the healthcare that they need. Abortion is healthcare and the government has no place to try to legislate people's bodies.

Andrew Perretta

N/A

Schertz, TX

Hello. My name is Andrew Perretta. I'm a voting constituent in Guadalupe County. I oppose HB 2313. Abortion is health care and is fully legal in the United States. I support a pregnant person's right to choose when they want to start a family. As a Texas taxpayer, I don't want public funds used to defend these unconstitutional bills in federal courts.

Please vote no on this bill. Thank you.

Carly Hudson, Mrs

Self

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Kingwood, TX

We do not need more restrictions hindering our access to abortion. I oppose this legislation.

Natasha Rappazzo

Planned Parenthood Greater Texas

Arlington, TX

My name is Natasha Rappazzo and I oppose HB 2313. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. People who access abortions do not need "assistance" before their abortion - they need abortion to be accessible, affordable, an as easy to get as possible. Oppose HB 2313

Daniel Walker

Self, Health Administrator

San Antonio, TX

I am OPPOSED to any bill that restricts abortion services. Abortion should be safe and LEGAL. Restricting abortion services simply causes women to seek illegal and unsafe abortions.

Piper Madland

Self

HOUSTON, TX

I strongly oppose this bill which violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Brenda Mondragon

self/unemployed

HOUSTON, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Khadija Hassan, Ms.

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n/a

Georgetown, TX

Do not support this bill. Abortion is a safe medical decision and an essential part of healthcare. The decision needs to be between the pregnant individual and the healthcare provider/ physician, not crisis pregnancy centers. Do not pass this bill.

Katie O'leary

Self

Irving, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Barbara Select

Self - retired

Dallas, TX

My name is Barbara and I oppose HB 2313. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

shamyra coleman

Planned Parenthood of Texas

Shiner, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Marie LeBlanc

self, program director

Austin, TX

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My name is Marie LeBlanc and I opposed House Bill HB 2313. As a working, independent woman, it's important to me that I know I can control my reproductive journey and personal health. Having access to safe, legal abortion is part of that peace of mind. It's also important to me that I can trust the health care providers who are part of providing a full range of reproductive health care. This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. I care about all Texas women accessing the health care and abortion care they need because women should be in charge of their own bodies and get to make the choice about when and how to become a parent. I oppose this bill because it creates unnecessary barriers for women accessing the health care they need.

Madelyn Morneault

self

Austin, TX

This bill places extensive restrictions on how and when a provider can provide medication abortion. Mifepristone, the medication used in a medication abortion, is already subject to FDA restrictions and has a proven safety record.

Medication abortion is extremely safe and effective and gives patients the option to end their pregnancy at home or in another setting in which they feel comfortable, while still providing them with the medical support and information they need.

Any attempt to restrict medication abortion is clearly motivated by politics, not science.

This bill is in direct conflict with the FDA label. In April 2019, the FDA approved the first generic form of mifepristone, following a review of the evidence that medication abortion is a safe, effective way to end an early pregnancy — with a safety record of over 99%.

This bill takes enforcement decisions out of the hands of local governments.

This bill is dangerous and should not be supported.

Amber Donley

Self

Dallas, TX

My name is Amber Donley and I oppose HB 2313! Abortion rights are Women's Rights and women deserve to keep their medical decisions PRIVATE! It is a discussion with the woman and her doctor, not a 3rd party vendor who does NOT have the woman's health as a priority!

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

I strongly encourage you to oppose this bill and support a woman's right to keep her medical decisions between her and her doctor!

Madelyn Morneault

self

Austin, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

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Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Sonya Roberts

Self (Occupation: Manager)

Austin, TX

My name is Sonya Roberts, and I oppose House Bill 2313/Senate Bill 802. I am appalled at this attack on the privacy of women and doctors along with their associated health care decisions. Texans have a right to privacy, and there is no need to bring in this third party to further stigmatize and restrict access to safe and legal abortion. I urge you to reject this unnecessary legislation.

Ollie Miles

self

Sugar Land, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hour

Maureen Tomasino

self

San Antnoio, TX

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Alyssa Schafer

Self, Student

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

My name is Alyssa Schafer and I am currently a student pursuing my Master of Social Work degree. I am writing today to express my opposition with Texas HB 2313. While there exists a myriad of impacts correlated to reproductive rights, scholarly research significantly emphasizes deleterious health related impacts on both the mother, and child when reproductive rights are restricted. Evidence suggests an association with unintended pregnancies that progress until delivery and (a) higher risks of low birth weight and preterm birth, (b) long-term physical health consequences and paucities in development, and (c) adverse maternal outcomes, specifically related to health, poverty, and intimate partner violence (Wallace et al., 2017).

Further research has suggested that women residing in states with the least restrictive reproductive rights, experience greater

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gender equality, and lower rates of unintended pregnancy and intimate partner violence (Wallace et al., 2017).

This bill violates the privacy of Texas residents by creating a record and requiring two-factor authentication of people seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed persons who are not their healthcare providers. This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship, and mandates a patient to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, prior to an abortion. Additionally, such counseling should not be provided by individuals who are unlicensed by the state or without a degree in social work, counseling, or psychology, for words alone can be exceedingly harmful.

This legislation is harmful to Texans, and I implore you to reject HB 2313.

Michael Youngquist

Self

Austin, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Daniel Schafer

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

My name is Daniel Schafer. I am writing today to express my opposition with Texas HB 2313. While there exists a myriad of impacts correlated to reproductive rights, scholarly research significantly emphasizes deleterious health related impacts on both the mother, and child when reproductive rights are restricted. Evidence suggests an association with unintended pregnancies that progress until delivery and (a) higher risks of low birth weight and preterm birth, (b) long-term physical health consequences and paucities in development, and (c) adverse maternal outcomes, specifically related to health, poverty, and intimate partner violence (Wallace et al., 2017).

Further research has suggested that women residing in states with the least restrictive reproductive rights, experience greater gender equality, and lower rates of unintended pregnancy and intimate partner violence (Wallace et al., 2017).

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. Additionally, such counseling should not be provided by individuals who are unlicensed by the state or without a degree in social work, counseling, or psychology, for words alone can be exceedingly harmful.

This legislation is harmful to Texans, and I implore you to reject HB 2313.

Ellen Hoffman

Self

Dallas, TX

Women need access to safe, legal abortions performed by medical professionals

Angelique and Marc Van Bavel

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self

Austin, TX

Abortion is an important element of women's rights because women are more affected by the abortion debate than men, both individually (if they are considering an abortion) and as a gender.

If abortion rights are denied, then a constraint is imposed on women's freedom to act in a way that is of great importance to them, both for its own sake and for the sake of their achievement of equality;

Women need the right to abortion in order to have the same freedoms as men. Women have a moral right to decide what to do with their bodies. The right to abortion is vital for gender equality.

Women must have full rights over their own bodies (including the right to decide whether or not to carry a fetus to birth).

Every woman should be able to decide for herself, if and when to start a family. Women need free access to abortion in order to achieve full political, social, and economic equality with men.

Reproductive freedom is a woman's right.

Banning abortion puts women at risk by forcing them to use illegal abortionists.

It is a constitutional right of women to legally obtain an abortion.

As your Texas constituents we are asking you to oppose the below abortion related bills:

HB 1280 relates to prohibition of abortion; providing a civil penalty; creating a criminal offense.

HB 1515 relates to abortion, including abortions after detection of an unborn child's heartbeat; authorizing a private civil right of action.

HB 2313 relates to a required resource access assistance offer before an abortion is performed.

HB 2337 that relates to the regulation of drug-induced abortion procedures, providers, and facilities; providing criminal penalties.

HB 2676 relates to the creation and optional filing of a record of life for an unborn child and the use of a certificate of stillbirth; authorizing fees.

HB 3218 relates to the regulation of abortion, including information regarding perinatal palliative care and prohibiting discriminatory abortions; authorizing disciplinary action; providing a civil remedy; creating a criminal offense.

HB3760 relates to information regarding perinatal palliative care, regulation of abortion, and the availability of certain defenses to prosecution for homicide and assault offenses; providing an administrative penalty; creating criminal offenses.

Heather Benedetto

Self, Public School Teacher

Richardson, TX

The government should not regulate a woman's choice to an abortion. This creates a dangerous precedent as well as the occasion to have an abortion outside of the medical establishment.

Rebecca Rodgers

Self

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ARLINGTON, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2313. I believe that pre-abortion counseling outside the abortion industry will potentially help a person contemplating a life-altering decision to seek alternative help. This could save the life of an innocent child. Please consider passing this measure.

Jamie Burciaga

self

Conroe, TX

Hi there, as a supporter of several programs and ministries that offer pregnancy assistance to mothers-to-be, I am fully aware of the frequency that a child's life will be saved when ultrasounds and resources are readily available. I'm writing to remind the committee that every single life is precious, has been knit together in their mother's womb by our almighty God and is fearfully and wonderfully made. I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas, altogether.

Jennifer Duffy

Self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by women, not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try to do it themselves.

Adrienne Nisbet

self/ teacher

San Antonio, TX

My name is Adrienne Nisbet and I oppose House Bill 2313. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. This is an unnecessary hurdle that woman should not be subject to. Please reject this legislation.

Sabina Madland

self, student

Houston, TX

My name is Sabina Madland and I oppose HB 2313. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by requiring interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. I urge you to reject this legislation.

Noel Madland

Self, student

Houston, TX

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and

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human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Evelin Garcia

self

Kyle, TX

My name is Evelin Garcia, and I oppose House Bill 2313.

As a woman of color, I find it appalling that Gov. Greg Abbott is more concerned with passing anti-abortion bills that make it harder for me to get an abortion than keeping Texas safe and vaccinated against COVID-19. I have the right to an abortion, and any legislation that attempts to limit access or punish anyone who provides this health care service to me is a violation of my rights.

Abortion access is a form of health care, and limiting access to it is a violation of my rights!

I oppose this bill and urge the Texas Legislature to reject this legislation.

Elizabeth Guess

Self

Frisco, TX

I'm all for giving preventive measures to prevent this evil, but do we give parents of toddlers resources to ensure they don't murder their children. To me this is no different. Our country & culture is sick, we need to change how people view and value life. Public education is failing us all. I wouldn't dare send my young children there now, it's like sending them to the wolves to be devoured.

Taking the life of another is murder. All abortion is murder as it is the taking of another human life. Murder is already a law, and therefore should apply to the human lives inside the womb. It is past time we correct this egregious offense against our own human race. A nation cannot stand if it we allow this evil to remain a "lawful" activity without consequence. This genocide has removed whole generations of people and commit the ultimate sentence of death against our most innocent, vulnerable, precious, and voiceless among us, our children in the womb. I believe the doctors or whosoever commits that actually murder of the innocent life in the womb is the one deserving of punishment. No longer can we allow wicked practice to continue. Be the brave and courageous individuals who God has granted you temporary power in the position you hold to use to end these atrocities. For when you stand before the Creator of the Universe may He will know you acted on behalf of the truly weak, defenseless, and powerless. The time is now to do what should have been corrected long ago, end the greatest evil the world has ever known.

Mitchell Nisbet

Self, biologist

San Antonio, TX

Hi my name is Mitch Nisbet and I oppose HB 2313 because I believe this is an unconstitutional bill and goes against what has been laid out as precedent by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Kyle McClintock, Mr

Self

Pflugerville, TX

My purpose in writing you is to ask for your commitment to uphold justice on behalf of all pre-born human beings who are being killed through abortion in our state. I urge you to honor the value of human life from the moment of fertilization. Represent me well by supporting and hearing HB 3326. Completely end all human abortion. Save Texas from this violent crime.

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Pre born children are alive, they feel pain, they are as human as you or I, and they are made in the image of God. We have not only the right but the duty before God to be the voice of those who's blood is crying out to God. Christ has appointed you to this position and He watches how we act.

I am urging you to protect additional lives this session. Texas needs to stop treating infants like non humans. These babies are alive in their mother's wombs until they are butchered in cold blood. This has got to stop. It breaks my heart. You are my representatives and I'm begging you to stand up for these babies.

I urge this committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Please publicly commit to prioritizing the complete abolishment of human murder.

May God grant you courage and strength.

Amanda Bennett

Self; Project Manager

Austin, TX

As a citizen who cares deeply about privacy, I oppose HB 2313. I oppose this bill because people who want abortions should be given abortions, not forced to call a hotline explicitly prohibited from referring them to abortions; and also because of the privacy risks this bill creates. Pregnant Texans should not be subjected to state surveillance, and pregnant people should not be assigned tracking numbers as a prerequisite to obtaining services.

This bill does not create or provide services; it creates a tracking and surveillance system for pregnant people. HB 2313 will cost the state of Texas roughly seven million dollars per year according to the fiscal note, but does not allot additional funding to the resources that the "care agents" will be offering.

A statewide database of people seeking abortions, in addition to information about what social services they may need, will have disastrous consequences. Any data stored can be breached, whether due to a state employee or contractor using a weak or duplicate password, or because of a vulnerability in the database software, or a phishing email sent by cybercriminals. These kinds of breaches have already impacted Texans, including: in March 2020, a state contractor leaked 27.7 million Texas driver's license records; in June 2020, a Medicaid contractor exposed the records of 275,000 Texans on Medicaid after suffering a phishing and ransomware attack; and in 2019, twenty state agencies had their data compromised in a ransomware attack.

Sensitive data about people's pregnancies and social services needs could be of particular value to an attacker.

The only guaranteed way to protect data is to not collect it in the first place. Instead of requiring pregnant people who want abortions to subject themselves to state data collection and tracking numbers, people who want social services should be able to opt in, because social services should already be accessible to everyone who needs them.

I noted that the word "database" has been removed from the corresponding Senate Bill 802 in the engrossed version, but whether or not you call it one, a collection of identifier numbers and data about social service needs is a database. The data collected is easily de-anonymized, especially in combination with the metadata that "care agents" will inevitably extract during phone calls. If the state of Texas wanted to assist pregnant Texans, they would make social services accessible, so that people could easily obtain the services they need regardless of their pregnancy outcomes. This bill is a bad faith effort to funnel millions of dollars to anti-abortion organizations with a track record of abusing sensitive data, by creating a system that will be used to surveil pregnant people.

I trust pregnant people to know what they need. Instead of surveilling and tracking pregnant people, the state of Texas should made it easier for them to meet those needs, whether it's housing, resume development, an abortion, or all 3.

Brian Rogers

self, computer programmer

Farmers Branch, TX

I oppose HB 2313 because abortion should be a woman's personal decision, not the government's. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try do it themselves.

justin morrow

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self surveyor

Alba, TX

The Bible tells us that all life is a blessing and that children from conception are a gift from God, no matter the circumstances

Zara Zamora, Ms.

Self

Houston, TX

My name is Zara Zamora and I oppose House Bill HB-1515, HB 1280, Hb 2337/Sb 394, HB 2313/ SB 802, HB 3218/SB 1173, and HV 3760/ SB 1647.

I oppose this bill because no person should have to raise a child they can't care for, but all children require parents. In the adoption system there are tons of kids who will never have a family, statistically it is impossible. Many of these bills are unsafe for the child and parent, as well as unconstitutional. I care about abortion access because I actually care about the kids in our country, forcing someone to give birth isn't going to protect them. Please reject these bills, all kids deserve parents if you enforce this bill they won't have anybody.

Doc Greene

RightSideOfTheMic

Katy, TX

It is long past time to quit killing baby Texans. Life begins at conception and can begin at no other time. Even in cases of Rape and Incest, both being very low probability, it is not the Baby's fault. The Baby doesn't get a vote. Its Ludicrous to continue this barbarity. Of course IF Republicans were REALLY prolife this would have ended 20 years ago. I see you are, and so does Yeshua the Mighty GOD in CHRIST

Elizabeth Davison

Self

Weatherford, TX

I am against HB2313. Jeff Leach has proven himself to be an enemy to the preborn. He had an opportunity to push through the only bill that would have abolished abortion in 2019. Now he puts forth this piece of legislation that says, in effect, "you can murder your child after we give you a list of resources." Ten minutes outside of a clinic will prove that most of the women procuring abortions do not need and/or want help. The only correct course of action is to scrap this bill and put support behind HB3326

Blair Wallace, Policy & Advocacy Strategist

ACLU of Texas

Houston, TX

Written Testimony Against House Bill 2313 by:

Blair Wallace

Policy & Advocacy Strategist

American Civil Liberties Union of Texas

Dear Chairwoman and Members of the Public Health Committee:

HB 2313 would put yet another roadblock in front of a woman's ability to access her constitutionally protected right to safe, legal, abortion care by requiring her to receive medically inaccurate "counseling" from a third-party vendor.

The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often from what are

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known as crisis pregnancy centers, before an abortion. HB 2313 would force Texans seeking abortion care into biased, coercive, unregulated non-medical services with the ultimate goal of shaming a patient out of the decision to have an abortion from anti-abortion crisis pregnancy centers. Crisis pregnancy centers are unlicensed, non-medical clinics that provide false and misleading information to people seeking abortions. They deny people vital medical information about their pregnancy and prevent them from making a fully informed decision.

Abortion is a safe and legal medical procedure that does not require expanded counseling. Abortion providers, like all medical providers, are ethically bound to provide patients with information and options, procedure details and any other information a provider deems pertinent after assessing each patient's unique health needs and circumstances. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. This requirement violates the principles of informed consent, intrudes on the provider-patient relationship, and infringes on patients' right to receive relevant, accurate and unbiased information prior to obtaining medical care so they can make sound decisions about their treatment.

The bill also allows for inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires that the contractor must certify to the commission that the patient received the "offer" resources and use this patient's "identifying number" to do so. The abortion cannot move forward until the counselor certifies the patient received the offer of resources. This would effectively give a third-party entity absolute control and veto power over a person's decision to terminate a pregnancy. The state contractor could refuse to issue the certificate, or make scheduling the counseling onerous, or place any number of obstacles between a patient and their doctor.

This is an extreme proposal that imposes restrictions on women that Texans do not want. HB 2313 goes too far in inserting government into our personal and private lives, and on behalf of the tens of thousands of Texans we represent, we oppose this legislation in the strongest of terms.

Charlotte Fiehn

Self

Cypress, TX

I oppose HB 2313 as it is a violation of a woman's rights to privacy and a violation of her basic reproductive rights and human rights as a clear mechanism to restrict access to legal abortions. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. It sanctions inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

I urge the rejection of this bill on the grounds that it is a gross violation of a woman's basic human rights. It is nothing more than a virulent form of sexism as an effort to prioritize an unborn fetus over the life and freedoms of women.

Briana Martinez

Self, student

Alamo, TX

My name is Briana Martinez and I oppose House Bill 2313. Denying Texans the right to privacy over their health is unethical and will endanger them. If you care about Texans, you will defend a person's right to safe access to abortions.

Lisa Kamerer, Mrs

Self

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Woodlands, TX

I strongly support this Bill, because every mother need to make an informed decision. Giving the mother the opportunity to know what is available to help raise her baby is critical in making a wise decision. Most abortions occur when women are not ready financially. Giving her access to assistance will help her choose life. An abortion does not fix the situation.

Sandra Barnes

Texas citizen

Quinlan, TX

Stop abortion

Ashley Werner

Self

Houston, TX

Oppose 2313

Joseph Barker

Self

Dallas, TX

Personal religious beliefs should not force women to make detrimental choices.

Barbara Hollyfield

Myself and Christ Jesus

Silsbee, TX

Distinguished legislators,

While all legislation intended to slow or discourage abortion may be commendable, what we need is to STOP abortion. We are killing babies as a form of birth control!! We are detestable and deplorable before God. He cannot bless America again as long as we endorse, condone, and legalize murder of the unborn. Please come together and immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Thank you, Barbara Hollyfield

Barbara Sargent

Retired/Self

El Paso, TX

HB 2313/SB 802: Abortion counseling and patient database

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

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Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Adam Rigel

Self

Garland, TX

My name is Adam Rigel and I oppose House Bill 2313. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. This bill wastes taxpayer time and money by requiring excessive oversight and extra requirements between private citizens and their doctors. Please oppose HB 2313.

Jocelyn Rigel

Self

Garland, TX

My name is Jocelyn Rigel and I oppose House Bill 2313. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. This bill wastes taxpayer time and money by requiring excessive oversight and extra requirements between private citizens and their doctors. Please oppose HB 2313.

shelley Rubinstein

Hope Farm

Harper, TX

Dear Sir, I drove all night to get to Austin to register to testify in favor of the abolition of abortion in Texas bill that was being heard by the Judiciary Committee which you chaired. I listened to hundreds of two minute stories till 10:00 that night when it was my turn to testify. I told of the physical, emotional, and life long harm I have experienced from the Austin Planned Parenthood (in 1973). Even though the abortion was very early term, at 4 weeks gestation, the butcher there perforated my uterus and several sections of my intestines and since the equipment was covered with blood and gore from previous abortions, I received an infection that filled my abdomen with scarring, rendered me barren, and put an end to my career as a dancer. Scar tissue doesn't stretch. It tears and makes more scarring. I have lived in pain from that abortion for 48 years. The physical pain is small compared to the pain of never getting to know the child I lost that day. Hundreds of people spoke in favor of the bill, eloquently, poignantly, many having been personally harmed by abortion on demand in Texas. Only three young women spoke against the bill and their rationales were petty, arrogant, and banal. I have often lamented the betrayal that we experienced that day at your direction and stemming from your leadership. It seems that people campaign on a platform that pro-life Texans ardently, wholeheartedly, and generously support and then when you all get to Austin, you care very little for your supporters or for maintaining your integrity in keeping your word. I was given an extra two minutes to tell the wonderful side of the story about my adopted daughter who was conceived as a result of rape, supposed to be severely handicapped, and who was scheduled to be executed by saline abortion when she was 6 months gestation. Her biological mother defied the doctor's bullying and allowed my daughter, Catie, to be born. She was born strong, perfect, and beautiful. Now, as I enjoy the incredible intelligence and stellar beauty of my grandchildren, I realize that abortion doesn't just kill innocent, tiny, vulnerable human beings. Abortion kills generations of incredible promise and beauty and joy and everything good! Please sir. I beg of you. Do not betray us and the children again.

Mireya Trevino

self, program specialist

Austin, TX

Hello, my name is Mireya and I oppose house bill 2337. Medication abortion via Mifepristone has been proven to be safe and

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effective by the FDA. It has a safety record of over 99%. Any attempt to restrict medication abortion is clearly motivated by politics, not science. Texans deserve the option to end their pregnancy at home or in another setting in which they feel comfortable. I urge you to respect the personal health decisions of Texans, and trust that they and their doctors are able to navigate the best course of action for their patients without the unnecessary intervention of additional barriers to healthcare. Please reject HB2337. Thank you.

Marcos Marcos Apodaca

Self

Burnet, TX

This Bill does not protect ALL humans who are in the womb. It does not remove the death of the human because the Bill only regulates abortion.

I urge this committee to reject this and any Bill that regulates abortion instead of abolishes it. It is your sworn duty to protect the citizens of Texas and even more so all humans and their dignity. To pass a Bill that only saves some lives is to discriminate.

You must stand for all life and remove an unjust law that allows for the murder of 55,000 babies per year in the state of Texas alone.

Hold a hearing for HB 3326, the only true bill of abolition that provides equal protection to all unborn children.

Mireya Trevino

self, program specialist

Austin, TX

Hello, my name is Mireya and I oppose house bill 2313. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record of people seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. These third-party state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, are not licensed or regulated by any medical board. Instead they rely on shaming Texans and trying to pressure them while they make the most personal decision of their lifetime. It's not only wildly inappropriate, it's invasive, traumatizing, and an unnecessary interference into the doctor-patient relationship. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. HB 2313 is gross state overreach. I urge you to respect the personal health decisions of Texans, and trust that they and their doctors are able to navigate the best course of action for their patients without the unnecessary intervention of additional barriers to healthcare. Please reject HB 2313. Thank you.

Cheryl Dunlap

Self

Arlington, TX

I urge you to require resource access assistance before an abortion is performed. There are many good resources available such as the one I'm involved with Embrace Grace Inc. helping single moms be Brave. They propel the Pro-Love movement forward with single and pregnant women as they get back on their feet, to realize their life is not over but just beginning. Let's help these women be brave and give them resources to choose Life.

Karen Eudy

Self

Royse City, TX

This is a discriminatory bill. NO abortions should be performed.

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The Republican Party of Texas Legislative priority is: ABOLITION OF ABORTION-
Abolish abortion by ensuring the right to life and equal protection of the laws to ALL preborn children from the moment of FERTILIZATION.

Please represent the priorities of the people you are elected to represent, as well as the preborn baby Texans that these "pro-life" bills do not protect or represent.

I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely and immediately abolish abortion in Texas.

Megan Brannen

ACLU/AVOW/Sunrise/AllyTees/ConcernedCitizensEverywhere

Austin, TX

My name is Megan Brannen and I STRONGLY OPPOSE House Bill 2313 / SB 802.

I am currently trying to get pregnant with my husband, but one fear I have is that I will conceive an ectopic pregnancy (a fertilized egg outside of the womb) and I MIGHT DIE if I'm forced to carry that fertilized egg to full term. Additionally, in college I was raped by an ex boyfriend who thought he had rights to my body while I was sleeping -- something far too many young girls in this state go through -- and if I had become pregnant, I would not have been able to care for that child financially or emotionally, and may have resented the child as well; I do not wish this upon anyone in our great state.

These matters are extremely private, but I add them here to give you personal, real-life examples of why women need private access to abortion, and any other medical care as it relates to pregnancy. Their personal information should be protected through HIPPA, and their protection should matter to their elected representatives. You represent women in this state, but we will suffer under this bill.

The reason this cause is so near and dear to me is that I am a woman, who wants equitable access to the support of the medical community, and want the same for my fellow Texans. I do not support government overreach, and believe we should be putting our time/energy/effort/tax dollars into supporting communities, not burdening them or tearing them apart as this bill would most assuredly do. I believe the government should leave private medical decisions to their constituents and their families, and not expose them to further risk or stress during an already difficult process: pregnancy.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. These procedures cause women to miss work, and possibly expose to their employers a very private matter that should only be discussed within the family, and their selected healthcare providers. We do not restrict teachers from doing their jobs, why would we restrict doctors from adequately serving their patients? Why won't you protect women's rights, or their privacy? By not doing so you're putting them at risk for suffering more consequences, a burden that we do not have the authority to judge here on earth.

I strongly urge you to REJECT this legislation.

Frank Netscher

Self

Austin, TX

Vote NO on anti-abortion House Bills 1280, 1515, 2337, 2313, 3218, 3760. I am contacting you because I am very concerned about the extremist anti-abortion bills getting a public hearing this week at the Legislature. Abortion is health care and is legally protected by the U.S. Constitution. We don't need more unnecessary restrictions, and they are extremely unpopular with Texans

Denise Gordon

Self/Clinical Social Worker

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Round Rock, TX

Rep Leach and Committee Members: Rep Leach means well with HB 2313, but it is far too restrictive and intended to not provide the woman with the option of abortion when it may best serve her needs. As a Clinical Social Worker, I do agree that pregnant women who WANT counseling should be provided with free counseling, however, that counseling should provide women with non-judgmental counseling to determine what is right for her, not what Rep Leach or the TX Legislature determines is right for her.

As a therapist with over 35 years' experience, let me assure you we do not tell a woman to get an abortion. We assist women in sorting through ALL her options, and then let her make the decision that is right for her. If/as appropriate, we then provide the woman with resources to obtain the assistance she needs.

Unfortunately, in this Bill, Rep Leach prohibits appropriately licensed professionals from offering "PRE-ABORTION RESOURCE ACCESS ASSISTANCE" who have:

"(2)

(A) have performed an abortion in the last two years;

(B) have served as a director, board member, officer, volunteer, or employee for an abortion facility licensed under Chapter 245;

(3) may not refer women to an abortion provider, recommend abortion, or take any other action that directly or indirectly advises or assists a woman in obtaining an abortion;

(4) must be authorized under a contract with the commission to provide resource access assistance offers and support services on behalf of this state in accordance with this section;"

these restrictions are unnecessary.

Rep Leach, I'll make this personal, because you want to control counseling access and availability. Your wife publicly testified about her Sexual Abuse as a teenager in 2019. There is no indication of whether she became pregnant by the abuse? Had she become pregnant, would you have wanted her to be forced to carry the pregnancy to term? How would you have felt had the therapist she saw in 2018 told her that the abuse was her fault? Yes, that would have been unethical, BUT, no more unethical than your proposed Bill limiting the options those providing assistance may offer a pregnant woman.

Although this Bill requires the woman be offered assistance and resources to assist with the pregnancy, this Bill does NOT make those resources available or provide funding for the resources to help a child grow to age 18 or 21 in TX being Well parented, fed, clothed, housed, educated, medically cared for, and loved!

This Bill as written needs to be defeated! Offer optional decision-making counseling exploring all options for free. Do not save record of that counseling in a data-base that can be hacked. Properly fund public education in TX. Provide adequate methods of Birth Control for all in TX. Expand Medicaid in TX.

Anyone who votes for this, do you dictate to your own children? Do you use birth control? Care for ALL living and breathing women and children in TX, stop trying to legislate Women's bodies and choices!

Alejandro Camarillo, Mr

Self / cook

Denton, TX

Dear house committee , Thank you for allowing me to write this comment, hopefully you will read it, but I would strongly encourage y'all to take the time and the effort to allow the Hb 3326 bill , to be heard and to be put forth to pass , because this bill passes all other pro life bill's in having the effect and goal of abolishing abortion , so please let hb 3326 bill, be heard and strongly backed up by y'all to be pass. For the sake of Him who made us in his image, and Who desires us, to live just and righteous before Him , So honor Christ, first by submitting to Him and His finish work upon the cross and resurrection and second by passing laws and bills that are according to God's law and character. Plz pass bill HB3326.

Thank you

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Kate Harslem

SELF

Austin, TX

SO NOW YOU WANT TO MAKE A WOMAN GIVE UP HER IDENTITY TO SOME THIRD PARTY? WHY IS THAT NECESSARY??

WHAT IF YOUR DAUGHTER NEEDED AN ABORTION AND YOU WANTED HER TO HAVE HER ANONIMITY BECAUSE HELLO YOU'RE ANTI-ABORTION AND HEAVEN FORBID ANYONE WOULD FIND OUT THAT YOUR DAUGHTER HAD AN ABORTION. YEAH ANONYMITY IS IMPORTANT. CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTERS HAVE NO BUSINESS GETTING INVOLVED. THIS IS BETWEEN A WOMAN AND HER DOCTOR. NO ONE ELSE.

THINK ABOUT YOUR DAUGHTERS, MOTHERS AND WIVES. WOULD YOU SUPPORT THEM IN THIS DECISION? THIS IS NOT OKAY.

Cameron Marsh

Self

Austin, TX

Hi my name is Cameron Marsh and I am writing in opposition of HB 2313. 2313 creates another painful, unnecessary step and intrusion of a third party into a patient's personal medical decision. This makes a decision that was already difficult even more laborious and time consuming. The state will be unnecessarily infringing on the liberties of the patient by mandating a non-medical third party intervention.

Sharon Minro

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. It violates Texans' privacy by requiring inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship.

Joan Dodson

Self

Weatherford, TX

Please reject continued regulation of abortion and immediately hear HB3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Rudy Flores, Mr.

Self

Abilene, TX

Show the female all facts and resources before abortion

patty terry, self

self, retired teacher, currently - Reading Interventionist for LCISD

Richmond, TX

People facing this circumstance need as much factual information as is possible.

Linda Cameron, Mrs.

Self

Henrietta, TX

I urge Congress to set aside all other bills to immediately review and unanimously approve HB 3326. Texas is a forerunner of legislation that saves lives and makes our state the leading entity of freedom since the Alamo. We fight to the loss of our lives to save the lives of the vulnerable.

Who more vulnerable than a baby in the womb? Please stand up for the rights of unborn humans regardless the circumstances of conception.

We need to show the world exactly how a two party republic can and should cooperate in saving lives of our citizens first and foremost, then extent that curtesy to other countries requiring medical expertise only available here.

Thank you for putting aside party platforms and differences doing the only decent thing as you would do it for your own unborn child or grandchild.

Linda Cameron

Brenda Frank, Retired teacher

Self

Tomball, TX

Dear representatives for House Public Committee,

My name is Brenda Frank and I am writing to express my opinion on HB 2313 by Leach. I am FOR this bill that requires pre-abortion counseling and discussions on available options and resources. Please vote YES for HB 2313.

Sincerely,

Brenda Frank

12220 Zion Rd Tomball Tx 77375

Zac Hammer

Self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by women, not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try do it themselves.

Patricia Sumrow

Myself

Frisco, TX

I'm a Texas resident asking the committee to STOP advancing any legislation that attacks abortion access and regulates medical decisions I as a woman should make with my doctor. I strongly oppose House Bill 2313. The Texas House needs to focus on the real crises facing Texans like access to health care, responding to COVID-19, maternal mortality, and the energy crisis, not Dan Patrick's political agenda.

Meredith Duke

self - REALTOR® but I also volunteer as a Client Consultant for Hope Pregnancy Centers in Temple, TX

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Belton, TX

As a volunteer for the past 2 years at Hope Pregnancy Center in Temple, we've seen a wide range of men and women come into our center. Many of those women are seeking options and hope for a crisis pregnancy. At HPC, we believe in life as God's word states. It begins at conception. These women (and the fathers of the babies), need guidance, support, and options besides abortion. They need to know that abortion isn't the only option for an unplanned pregnancy. We provide those options and give them resources on adoption (closed and open adoptions), parenting, support groups, maternity homes (in case they are young girls who are kicked out of their homes), in addition to what they need to know about abortions. We also provide ultrasounds for FREE to our clients so that they can not only see the baby but also HEAR the heartbeat and from there make an informed decision. These types of resources are invaluable for our communities and local families. I see the relief on the women's faces when they walk out of our center - with hope, information, and they are better prepared to make a decision. Let's face it - no matter what decision they make, it will have a lifetime of consequences. And, for those that have had previous abortions, we offer post-abortion care like Rachel's Vineyard - a retreat with other women who've made the choice for abortion and are feeling the guilt and pain of that decision. We've all sinned. We've all fallen short of the glory of God, but we can also be forgiven - and we can forgive ourselves. I've seen so many women with a lifetime of bad choices (many sexual relationships, drugs, alcohol, poor relationships with family) and once we chat for awhile, it's clear that these events typically start after their abortion. That's why resources should be required. Women (and men) need to know that they are NOT alone during this time. They need to know that there is hope and there are resources for them - outside of abortion. It's a matter of the heart - and they need to know they are loved, worthy, and not alone.

LeLynne Waltman Knight

self

Mansfield, TX

No woman should have to wait for access to an abortion. As a 58 year old woman and mother I am stunned that the access to have an abortion is once again up for debate. Women's reproductive health is not a political issue it is a fundamental right for a woman to have both the access and the right to safe healthcare.

James Herblin

J G Herblin

Prosper, TX

Unfortunately, pro-life bills presented in the last 60 plus years have been inadequate and "soft", at best. Most pro-life legislation currently being presented is pragmatic (cowardly) as it does not put an end to abortion – the door is always left open. Texas needs to take seriously the fact that abortion is murder. Think about that statement for just a moment. Abortion is murder.

Texas legislators refuse to shut the door to abortion. Texas legislators put forth pragmatic pro-life bills which deal with superfluous ideas (resource access, hospital disclosures, discrimination, abortion costs, heartbeat issues, notifications, etc.) that will always allow a way out such that abortions will continue to be performed.

Back to my point, abortion is murder. As a matter of fact, it is premeditated murder. It is brutal. It is performed on the living innocent. It is the most serious kind of murder that one can commit. However, and unfortunately, most pro-life legislators craft legislation as though abortion is nothing more than a Class C misdemeanor versus the 1st degree murder that it is.

Why is this? Why are most Texas legislators not putting forth/supporting pro-life legislation that will shut the door to abortion? Ask yourself that question. Why pragmatism? Why the use of "clever" wordsmithing? Why not call murder, murder?

Have any of you ever seen a video illustrating an abortion? Have you seen a video entitled, "The Silent Scream"? You should do so before you decide. Understand that abortion is more than putting an end to something; it is the brutal murder of the innocent and living pre-born. That should mean something to all of us. Something is virtuously wrong with one who can view The Silent Scream and still be ambivalent to abortion being classified as anything other than the premeditated brutal murder of the innocent and living pre-born.

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Do the right thing ladies and gentlemen. Many of you claim Christianity. OK, well, what would He do? Would He support/favor wordsmithing, pragmatism, cleverness, disingenuousness, etc. as a way to promote Christian living/obedience? Or was He loving and kind, yet bold and genuinely candid?

HB 3326 is the only bill presented that will candidly and courageously defend and end the current brutal murdering of the innocent and living pre-born. HB 3326 language loudly speaks "NO, NOT ON MY WATCH".

Fear not your adversaries, stand morally and judicially for the innocent and living pre-born - as He would.

Theodore Raymond, Mr

David Brown Flowers

Cleveland, TX

Resource access assistance is something all abortive mothers already receive. This is just another abortion regulation proposed by Jeff Leach so he can get that all important pro-life vote. I urge you to end the regulation of abortion and give HB3326 a hearing. The only bill that will abolish abortion.

Charles Branscum

SELF

Grand Praire, TX

STOP THE GENOCIDE OF INFANTS IN THE WOMB

Linda Magid

Self

San Antonio, TX

This bill is another barrier to a legal health care service. Please do not consider this bill while there are actual health care crises going on in Texas like access to affordable care, rural hospitals closing, and COVID-19 vaccine access.

William Pierrard, Magnolia

Self

Magnolia, TX

The abortion industry will intentionally mislead vulnerable women and provide wholly false information or half truths to accomplish a sale. They should be mandated to require certification of advisement of all possible outcomes, side effects, and of the possibility of post traumatic stress disorder following an abortion procedure.

Nathan Eleweanya, Mr.

self; Teacher-Tutor K and 1st Grade

Stafford, TX

Dear respected members of this committee,

I thank you all for your committed service on behalf of all constituents of this great state. I've been a Texas citizen my whole life, and only recently have been a politically active one. I am grateful for the many means of communication open to hear the concerns of the people. I write concerning the injustice of abortion. This is a wicked act in the sight of God, and many of you already know this and detest its continued practice in all its forms. Considering the fact that only this past weekend was the celebration of the Lord Jesus' death on behalf of His people for the forgiveness of sins, bodily resurrection for the justification of

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many, and ascension to the right hand of God to rule and reign heaven and earth, I want to call to mind that God the Father's raising Him from the dead vindicated Him as not only the Author of life, being Life Himself, but also the Author of justice. On this basis, I urge the committee in the sight of God to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas by providing equal protection of law for citizens of Texas in the womb.

Thus says the Lord in Isaiah 42:1-4 "Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Chosen One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles. He will not cry out, nor raise His voice, nor cause His voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth. He will not fail nor be discouraged, till He has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands shall wait for His law." This is the God whom we all serve daily. This is the God who has appointed you each to office as a means of His justice, and He provides the grace and help necessary to fulfill His will. We do not need more bills regulating abortion anymore than abolitionists of a different form would have been satisfied with bills regulating chattel slavery. If slavery were outlawed for those who were slaves for ten years or more, that would not be true justice. If slavery were outlawed only in cases where families were not in the same plantation, that would not be true justice. If slavery were outlawed only if a slave could prove literacy that would not be true justice. Regulating circumstances of wickedness leaves room for continued wickedness. Slavery needed to be abolished totally because it was totally wicked in the sight of God and man. And God dispensed grace in the form of people voicing their grievances, and resolving to defend those who could not defend themselves. As it was then, may God grant it to be so now.

Members of this honorable committee, my hope and prayer is for you to take the courage and virtue you have already shown in facing this issue to the full measure of grace and justice you have at your disposal. Thank you and God bless you all.

Kelly Le
Self, Student
Houston, TX

My name is Kelly Le and I oppose House Bill 2313.

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. It requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship by requiring a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. It introduces another obstacle for an abortion-seeking patient to obtain appropriate medical care when I believe Texas should be expanding access instead.

I care about abortion access because I want Texas to provide the quality healthcare that my sisters, friends, and future daughters deserve. Also, as an aspiring medical student, I feel that it is my duty to protect my future patients and improve the future of healthcare. HB 2313 is unnecessary and counterproductive to these goals, and I urge Texas legislators to reject this bill.

Phyllis Duzan
Self
League City, TX

I oppose!

Rachel Gollay
self
Fort Worth, TX

I oppose this bill HB 2313 as it violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers.

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This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. This bill is unnecessary, and a violation of rights to privacy and patient confidentiality.

Janice Harris, Mrs

Janices Office Works and Dispatching LLC

CARTHAGE, TX

should be enacted

Mary Walther

Self

Houston, TX

OPPOSE - this is a gross invasion of privacy. Stop these bills, all they will do is waste tax-payer money fighting them in court.

Joel Tope

self

Kingsland, TX

Abortion is a plague on our state. I'm appealing to you as our state representatives to put a stop to it. You need to be the voice for the pre-born who cannot speak for themselves. Please be bold and protect our children by abolishing abortion in the State of Texas. You have an obligation before the LORD to do this. He is the One who has put you in this position "for such a time as this." Don't fear men. Fear the LORD! I respectfully urge the committee to reject this continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Thank you.

Janet Dudding

Self

Bryan, TX

OPPOSE

Laura Braley

Self

Plano, TX

Please reject the continued regulation of abortion and immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Jeana Nam

self, counselor

Houston, TX

I oppose House Bill 2313 because it would violate the privacy of Texans by forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to

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unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. This interference is inappropriate and completely unnecessary.

Edith Corbitt

Self

Whitney, TX

I'm opposed to any legislation that limits healthcare choice by the patient. Healthcare choices should remain between the patient and healthcare professionals.

Angelica Martinez

self

Seguin, TX

My name is Angie Martinez Davis and I strongly oppose HG 2313. Women should have the right to decide what to do with their body. The requirement of counseling by a "pro-life" group is an infringement on a personal choice. Also, having them in a database does not support the right to privacy! I oppose this legislation!

LeRoy Whitman

self / Bible Translator for previously unwritten language

Denton, TX

While I agree that state resources should Not be used to aid or give information about procuring an intentional, premeditated abortion of a human child,

if premeditated human abortion was a criminal act in the state - as it should be -, then this would be a moot point.

The state recognizing the equal interests of the person in the womb by taking out the exception in the Texas penal code's homicide statute, would end the criminal negligence of the state of Texas in failing to protect these lives from professional killers - killers who operate as a "business," openly advertise, and profit from their literal trade in flesh and blood, and whose "product" is a dead child!

The state of Texas is generally recognized as the legitimate authority for prosecuting criminal acts.

As such, the substitution of this bill for a full-fledged criminalization of the act of dismembering a human child is very much like Pilate (the Roman governor of Judea in the time of Christ). Pilate had authority to release Jesus from custody, or to punish him to any degree, including death. Pilate knew the intended victim was being delivered to capital punishment not for any crime, but for their own selfish reasons - the intended victim of State-protected torturous execution was causing them trouble, disrupting their normal daily business. Despite this knowledge, Pilate also feared losing his powerful and profitable position protected by the highest authority in the land. Perhaps he felt in his own heart that he was protecting the religious community of his Roman jurisdiction; while taxing them in their own native land, he nevertheless saw that maintaining his position interposed Rome's superior power, keeping the bloodthirsty local Herod dynasty in check. One can only guess at Pilate's thoughts. His wife had a dream so clear and significant, she warned Pilate to not get involved with the issue at all.

Pilate, however, felt duty-bound. He took on the case, and took his seat in their symbolic place of "authority" (as the world understands it).

In his moral calculus - his mind and heart we cannot know - his actions, recorded in the Book of God, are clear, and are what count. Pilate, who had authority to allow Christ to be legally killed or to release Him and prevent the mob from illegally killing Him, ... this Pilate gave them their desire to kill the Victim, but tried to absolve himself from participation in the crime by washing his hands; in our terms, by passing a bill that the regional authority under Caesar SCOTUS is not participating in the killing, and recognizes it is wrong, but wrings its wet hands at the same time failing to change the sentence of death upon the Victim.

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Michelle Morris
Self, financial planner
Missouri City, TX

Oppose!

Lyndsi Lambert
Self
Austin, TX

My name is Lyndsi Lambert and I oppose HB 2313.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

I urge you to reject this legislation.

Petra Weldes, Rev Dr
CSLDallas, a Center for Spiritual Living
Dallas, TX

Stop trying to make it harder - this is a right every woman should have. There is already plenty of oversight and pandering to a political base on the backs of women is unconscionable

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information, the abortion provider must provide.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and are trained to identify coercion, family violence, and human trafficking, in addition to the already state-mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Arun Welch
self
Missouri City, TX

Abortion is an essential part of health care and decisions regarding this treatment should be made by the patient and the healthcare provider, not by the legislature.

Susan Markus
Retired
Austin, TX

I oppose this bill. Women have a constitutionally protected right to choose how we live our reproductive lives. The state should not interfere in our personal medical decisions. Focus on effective sex education and making birth control readily available instead.

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Michael Rastiello
Self, Product Manager
Austin, TX

This is a dangerous bill that would unfairly treat Texans seeking medical care that should remain private between them and their doctor. The government has no place in this discussion or decision.

Melanie Fletcher
Self writer
Plano, TX

I oppose this bill as I consider it to be far too restrictive, extreme, and dangerous for the health of women.

Monica Contreras
Self
Laredo, TX

hello, my name is Monica
I am personally against this bill for numerous reason including that the government should not be making a woman's decision for her. It is unethical & unprofessional that this bill was made to control women. Without an medically safe abortion, I wouldn't be a productive member of society that contributes to the american economy. This bill goes against personal & medical privacy which is a right for every person. I urge everyone to not pass this bill since it would create an influx of dangerous abortions, force women to travel out of state or country, & will give texas a bad reputation on how they treat their citizens.

Maggie Adams
Self, stay at home parent
Nacogdoches, TX

Oppose. Only women and their healthcare providers should make decisions regarding necessary medical procedures. Restricting access to abortions puts women's lives at risk by taking away their right to choose and receive medical care.

Patricia Howell, Ms
Private citizen
Conroe, TX

Abolish abortion and pass the Heartbeat bill. Save these babies that have no voice.

Heidi Gordon
Self / None
League City, TX

Oppose. This bill if passed will risk people's privacy and security if names placed on a list for seeking abortion. And counseling with a gag order is not counseling.

Jon Speed, Rev.
First Baptist Church of Briar

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Azle, TX

I am the Pastor of Missions and Evangelism and an elder at FBC Briar in Azle, TX. I am the co-producer of the documentaries on abortion called Babies Are Murdered Here (2014) and Babies Are Still Murdered Here (2019). I went viral in 2019 when I shut down my used book store for the day after New York State passed the Reproductive Health Act and appeared on Fox and Friends (twice), Hannity and Beck. I am a co-founder of the new, upcoming faith based streaming service called LOOR.tv.

I rise to testify AGAINST HB 2313. I stand in front of Whole Woman's Health in Fort Worth at least once a week and have been doing this kind of ministry (offering real help and the hope of the gospel) since 2011. We offer up to TWO YEARS of assistance from our church and church networks. The women who keep their babies (15 in the past year and a half in Fort Worth alone) have never requested the help. This is because the narrative of a financial need promulgated by the pro-life establishment is false. Most of the cars in the parking lot are luxury or new cars.

This bill, and many others that are being considered in this legislative session cannot do what they claim. They are not much more than virtue signaling.

In the meantime, the State of New York--which has no pro-life regulation--is showing declining numbers in real abortions than the State of Texas. How is this possible without pro-life regulations or specifically, heartbeat bills?

The answer lies in the rise in chemical abortions that can be procured online and emergency contraception which is available in almost every pharmacy and big box retailer in Texas and New York. It's similar to the Uber and Lyft influence on the taxi cab industry. It's not that people aren't using other people's vehicles to get to the airport. It's that they're using a different industry. The declining numbers in recent years are likely attributable to these other sources, but since they do not publish statistics there's no way of knowing exactly the impact. However, you can deduce that the availability is massive and therefore indeed does have an influence.

It's time to stop regulating abortion and it's time to really (really) abolish it. The only bill this session which does that is Slaton's HB 3326. This bill will not save babies in Texas. Abortion clinics do not obey pro-life regulations. This bill is unenforceable and is calculated as damage control for Rep. Leach who was exposed in our film, Babies Are Still Murdered Here, for killing HB 896 in the last session. The blood of 50,000+ babies per year since 2019 is on his hands.

Elizabeth Seiders

N/A

Round Rock, TX

Yes

Lexy Garcia

Texas Rising

San Antonio, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. Just another way that the state wants to surveil and frighten people out of achieving their true reproductive liberation.

Aditya Gollakota

Self - Student

Austin, TX

This is an absolutely terrible bill and restricts the fundamental freedoms of women. The government is not in a position to regulate a woman's body. I use this to vehemently oppose this bill.

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Carol Andrews

Self

League City, TX

Oppose

Joni Silva

Self, Silva Lining Voice Over, LLC

HOUSTON, TX

Once a woman decides having a baby is not what she can do, she doesn't need rabid strangers pushing her to do otherwise. Get Government out of my healthcare decisions and don't push other's religious choices on to others. Oppose this bill.

Jessica Rauch

self, Stay at home mother

Amarillo, TX

My name is Jessica Rauch and I oppose House Bill 2313. I oppose this bill because it violates the privacy of Texans and treats people with uterus like they are incapable of making an informed decisions about their own bodies. By creating a two-factor authentication you are saying that certain Texans cannot make a decision on their own, you are saying that we haven't already thought it through and that we cannot make an informed decision, and therefore must be looked after by the state. This is extreme government overreach. This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide. No Texan should be forced to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. In certain cases this is state sanctioned rape because depending on the gestation, some sonograms can only be performed internally.

I care about abortion access because I believe in bodily autonomy and the right to choose. If a person does not want a child, they should not have one. I oppose this bill because it violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers, and I urge you to reject this legislation.

David Featherston

self

Austin, TX

I, respectfully, urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Let's end abortion in Texas, where it began with Roe vs. Wade in 1973.

Also, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris admit that Roe vs Wade US Supreme Court decision is NOT the "law of the land", but intend to "codify into law" the right of abortion up to birth, a frightening vision for our country. Therefore, Texas should IGNORE ROE vs WADE and proceed to ABOLISH ABORTION in our state.

Harris' plan involves creating a "Reproductive Rights Act," which would require states that have previously been seen as hostile to abortion access to have Department of Justice approval for any laws restricting abortion. Modeled after the Voting Rights Act, her proposal positions abortion as a civil rights issue. Yet while the Voting Rights Act was created to allow the federal government to enforce provisions detailed in the 15th amendment, there is NO RIGHT TO AN ABORTION in the U.S. Constitution.

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Never before has a candidate openly stated he or she will essentially bypass the constitutional amendment process to grant one group of people (women) the right to harm another group of people (the unborn) and use the Department of Justice to ensure no one stands in the way.

PLEASE allow a hearing for HB 3326. Thank you.

Hannah Thalenberg
Self, abortion funder
Houston, TX

My name is Hannah Thalenberg, and I oppose House Bill 2313. By creating a record and two-factor authentication of people seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their health care providers, this bill would be an egregious violation of Texans' privacy and infringement on doctor-patient relationships.

HB 2313 requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion in addition to the information the abortion provider must submit. These centers often misrepresent themselves as licensed medical practitioners and have a documented history of lying to and manipulating pregnant people into not seeking abortions.

Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence, and human trafficking, in addition to the already state-mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. Abortion providers are just as happy to affirm a patient's decision to keep their pregnancy as they are to support them in moving forward with an abortion. As long as the decision is a patient's own, informed by sound medical advice, there is no reason why the state should interfere.

For the sake of *actual* public health, I urge this committee to vote against House Bill 2313.

Emily Domaschk
Self, audit & compliance manager
Elgin, TX

My name is Emily Domaschk and I oppose HB2313 / SB802.

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record of people seeking abortions and forcing people to reveal and discuss their personal medical diagnosis and decisions with unlicensed non-medical providers. Abortion providers are fully licensed and already trained to get informed consent and screen for issues such as family violence and human trafficking.

This type of legislation doesn't reduce the need for abortion. The most effective solution is improved medical care, access to effective birth control, and improved sex ed, that's not abstinence only but realistic. Conception takes both a man and a woman, and these attempts to limit abortion all focus on only policing women's bodies.

MARIAN MACKEY
TEXAS MARIJUANA POLICY
Baytown, TX

I SUPPORT HB 2313

Soraya Dadras
Whole Woman's Health Alliance
Austin, TX

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My name is Soraya Dadras, MPH, and I am a Clinic Director at Whole Woman's Health Alliance (WWHA). I submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 2313 because we have seen firsthand the harm that crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) cause to the communities we serve. These facilities provide false, stigmatizing information to people seeking abortion care during a time when correct medical information is needed most.

House Bill 2313 will require abortion patients in Texas to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, i.e. CPCs. We know that the state contractors identified in this bill are CPCs because as of now CPCs receive more than \$80 million from a state funded program called Alternatives To Abortion.

This bill would place additional barriers and obstacles on abortion care, which is already hard to obtain in Texas due to years of medically unnecessary abortion laws and restrictions. Under this bill's language patients would not be able to access abortion care until the third party counselor certifies the patient has received the offer of resources.

While there are over 200 CPCs in Texas, there are only 22 clinics that provide abortions. Many CPCs are unlicensed, non-medical facilities which are not required to maintain patient confidentiality or hire licensed medical staff, and many of them setup shop next to real abortion clinics as a tactic to lure patients inside to shame and lie to them about abortion care.

This bill also creates a database of every person who sought abortion care in Texas, which is a violation of patient privacy. The statewide database puts people at risk for exploring all their healthcare options. For all these reasons, I oppose House Bill 2313.

Samantha Cox

Self

Port Arthur, TX

Greetings, I am testifying against HB2313 which is being proposed by Leach. This bill is redundant at best. When you enter an abortion facility or any medical facility they can and will give information about other options. They have plenty of access to these documents both in facility and online. While pro-lifers are talking about "baby steps" you should not be taking only baby steps. You are accountable to God as people in authority. You are taking the right God has given you and are trampling it underfoot. HB3326 will remove the idea of abortion out of the minds of those being taken advantage of by these companies. If you have no abortion, you don't need a "required resource assistance". Thank you.

Ana Luisa Valdez

Self

Dallas, TX

Required assistance? Why does the GOP insist on regulating Women's bodies more than you regulate access to guns? The very instruments used to kill the precious lives you claim to defend. Understand that this disconnect of values may get a pass by some people but not the majority of votes who support a woman's right to self determination. Stop insulting every woman you know by acting as if the gender is filled with hapless fools who don't understand what it means to have an abortion, what it means to be in the horrible position where that is the only viable option to an unwanted pregnancy. If you cared about women you would provide options that would curtail the circumstances that lead to unwanted pregnancies. SOLUTIONS please. Stop the grand standing and do some real work.

Plamena Petrova Petrova

self

League City, TX

Oppose!!

Dana Epley

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Self

Houston, TX

Opposed

Billy O'Dell

40 Days for Life Denton

Sanger, TX

On average, more than 155 children are murdered by abortion every day in our state.

In spite of this horrific reality, the pro-life bills currently making progress through our legislature this session would take steps toward equal protection of our laws. I hope and pray that God would use you to help abolish abortion in our state. Having access to more resources can only be a good if they share what options women have besides abortion.

The legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas calls upon this legislature to “Abolish abortion by ensuring the right to life and equal protection of the laws to all preborn children from the moment of fertilization.”

I believe this is of the utmost importance that HB 2313 see a full vote by the the house. These bills are to important to not send them for a vote. We can't stand by and watch Children die. Let our representatives vote to determine the future of our state and how we will treat our most vulnerable. There are many other options to abortion, but killing can never be the way to handle an unplanned pregnancy. I am personally involved in helping organizations that actually help women in need. Lets get rid of abortion all together, but this is one step to make that happen. Thank you.

Brandi Trevino

Self

Katy, TX

Oppose

Jillian Lopiano, Dr

Whole Woman's Health

Fort Worth, TX

My name is Dr. Jillian Lopiano, MD, MPH, FACOG and I am the Texas Medical Director at Whole Woman’s Health. I submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 2313 because we have seen firsthand the harm that crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) cause to the communities we serve. These facilities provide false, stigmatizing information to people seeking abortion care during a time when correct medical information is needed most.

House Bill 2313 will require abortion patients in Texas to receive counseling or a “resource access assistance offer” from state contractors, i.e. CPCs. This bill would place additional barriers and obstacles on abortion care, which is already hard to obtain in Texas due to years of medically unnecessary abortion laws and restrictions. Under this bill’s language patients would not be able to access abortion care until the third party counselor certifies the patient has received the offer of resources. Requiring a third party counselor undermines the doctor-patient relationship and inserts a non-medical opinion into the private medical decision-making process.

Many CPCs are unlicensed, non-medical facilities which are not required to maintain patient confidentiality or hire licensed medical staff, and many of them setup shop next to real abortion clinics as a tactic to lure patients inside to shame and lie to them about abortion care.

This bill also creates a database of every person who sought abortion care in Texas, which is a violation of patient privacy. The

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statewide database puts people at risk for exploring all their healthcare options. For all these reasons, I oppose House Bill 2313.

Barbara Dearman

Self

Plano, TX

Oppose

Susan Turner

Self

Leander, TX

Today I am 50 + years old. As a young teenager, still in high school, I was an emotionally damaged, young woman, from a poor, dysfunctional family, from North Texas.

When I became pregnant, I was a scared frightened, young lady, without any emotional support of a family. I did not know where to go for help. I did not know of any resources available or help, for a young teenager, in my situation. At that time, there may or may not have been, any available.

I do not know.

I do know, I was alone.

When I went to the clinic, (abortion was not written anywhere outside)

I was given a pregnancy test and

told to watch a video, I have no recollection of what the video was about.. and eventually, told by a tech that it was a "blob of tissue " .

Well, that is what a young teenager, would like to hear, to get out of her situation.

Afterwards though... afterwards though... vacuum..

Death, Unbearable pain...death, Unbearable pain, in my heart and soul, of the baby and myself.

I asked GOD to forgive me. He did.

But I found myself in the situation again.. and again. It became a stronghold. Each time my baby died, my rational was "it was a blob of tissue" , it was a way out..but in my heart and soul, I knew.

I knew.. because I died. Each time my baby died, I died..

When I gave birth, to my son, he forever changed my life. The Texas Baptist Children's Home, became a resource, refuge, a safe place for me and my son.

They offered counseling, emotional healing, guidance and encouraged a relationship, with GOD. through Yeshua Messiah.

TBCH, knew of resources, on the Federal, State and local levels, to move you, in the direction, you wanted to go, whether housing, University, employment, etc.

I am forever grateful, of the loving care, resources and emotional support and healing.

Again.. I died. This time, it was to the strongholds, that kept me bound. I died.

Resources are key. Support is key. Knowing GOD's love for us, is key, the master key.

Gabriela Ahlheim, Mrs

self

Azle, TX

I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. There is no reason why Texas can't lead in this effort. If not now? When?

Rachel Pothier

Self

Plano, TX

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My name is Rachel Pothier and I oppose House Bill 2313.

I personally oppose this bill, as I believe that Texans deserve the right accessible, safe abortions without the unwanted interference of third parties. Women should be able to make their own private healthcare decisions with their doctor about their bodies in a timely manner.

This bill forces Texans to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. Doctors and abortion providers are already perfectly capable of performing their jobs without the state government interfering. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent, as well as the 24 hour waiting period. This bill is cruel and invasive overkill.

As a young Texas woman, being able to access safe and legal abortion healthcare should I need it in the future is important to me. I also believe in the inherent right of Texas citizens to be able to make their own healthcare decisions without restrictive laws being put in place by the government.

I urge you to reject this legislation. It is invasive to Texas citizens, and insulting to a doctor's ability to provide for their patient without the interference of the state.

Stephanie Villanueva (she/her)

self - public health graduate student

Cypress, TX

My name is Stephanie Villanueva (she/her), and I oppose House Bill 2313. I personally oppose this bill because I have an undergraduate degree in Public Health, and I currently am a graduate student pursuing my Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at UTHealth School of Public Health. I want to make it clear to the Texas Legislature that abortion is healthcare, therefore I would like to express my opposition to HB 2313. I am against this anti-abortion bill. I care about abortion access, because this is a medical decision that should be decided between the patient and the doctor, not by legislators. I urge you all to reject this legislation.

Lisa Ewing

self homemaker

Montgomery, TX

I support this bill. It is such a benefit to expectant mothers to know all of their options before resorting to ending the pregnancy.

Sandra Alexander

Self - prayer partner

Midlothian, TX

Let me urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Amelia Long

Self, nonprofit employee

Austin, TX

I am a Texan against HB 2313. Abortion is healthcare. Bills like this that negatively impact access to abortion are harmful to public health and they are just plain immoral. Don't do this to Texas.

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Shawn Troxell, Ms

Self

New Braunfels, TX

To whomever reads this:

I am very much against HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760. My representative, knows my opinion.

He believes, like the supporters of these bills, that their religious beliefs should be forced upon all of us.

They believe life begins at conception. Science proves it does not.

Therefore, these bills cannot become laws because they infringe upon my rights. There can be no using religion to make a law. Don't you agree?

In denying women the right to choose you are condemning many of us to a harder life, with more obstacles, often shamed as a single mother, unable to find a good paying job and hours that work while also raising a child.

It seems to me that you simply don't care about us.

What I do to my body is not your choice.

NOT your choice.

The choice is mine.

You must not allow these bills up for discussion, much less a vote. Too many men, too many religious men, too many white old religious men simply cannot be allowed to debate a woman's right to choose.

I'm not alone in my anger over these bills.

So I will be watching what's happening and sharing with my family, friends, and former students.

Courtney Chambers

self - public health professional

Austin, TX

My name is Courtney Chambers, MPH and I oppose HB 2313. There is no need to continue to interfere in a woman's ability to chose abortion when that is what is best for her.

Bettie Forman

Bettie Forman

Austin, TX

Strongly oppose!!

Renee Roth

Self

Tyler, TX

Oppose

Jeri Saper, Mrs

Self - Business Owner

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Women have a right to make decisions about their own bodies.

Isabelle Headrick

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self, student

Austin, TX

I oppose this as a dangerous and unlawful attack on the human rights of women, on religious freedom, and on medical privacy. This is a Christian supremacist and male supremacist bill.

Kim Kahn

Ncjlw

Austin, TX

Putting a women's health before that of her unborn fetus is a fundamental belief of my Jewish faith. I therefore implore you not to pass this prohibitive bill.

Branda Thomas

Decatur Matting and Framing

Decatur, TX

I am in favor of passing this bill.

Cat Yuracka, Mrs

Self

San Marcos, TX

I oppose this attempt to restrict women's rights to manage their own healthcare. Republicans are always saying the "big government" needs to stay out of citizens' personal lives...even to the point of not having governmental regulations where they are needed for the protection of the citizenry. Please keep "big government" out of the discussions that should be between women and their doctors and my families, and the decisions that belong to women alone.

Sharon Krumholz

Sharon Krumholz

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill, as it is unconstitutional and it goes against the teachings and practice of the Jewish faith.

Wendy Tomlinson, Dr

NCJW

Austin, TX

I understand that women seeking abortion would be listed in state records. Abortion is a private matter. The state has no right to information regarding a woman's medical status or medical treatment. This bill abrogates a woman's right to privacy.

Vianey Reyes, Ms.

Self

EL PASO, TX

This creates an undue burden on poor people. Point blank. Stop trying to fake medical concerns about a standard procedure.

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Abortion by means of medical practice is standard and does not require resource access assistance. Clearly, you did not speak to a medical provider to create this bill. You are just trying to push the limits of *planned parenthood v. casey* (1992). If this does pass I hope the courts embarrass Texas again as they did in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* (2016). And if you don't know about the jurisprudence of abortion through these Supreme Court cases, why are you crafting ill-informed laws? You have a duty to your constituents and to the state of Texas to do your research.

Kendall Bentsen
self, Organizer
Houston, TX

I see in this bill that you find it is important to ensure the person providing the "pre-abortion resource access assistance offer" must screen for "coercion of abortion." Why does this bill not require that the person also screen for coercion of carrying the fertilized egg, embryo or fetus to term?

When it comes to reproduction, abortion isn't the only thing a person can be coerced into. American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) refers to "reproductive coercion" as "relat[ing] to behavior that interferes with contraception use and pregnancy. (<https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2013/02/reproductive-and-sexual-coercion>)

Certainly if the Texas lawmakers are concerned about a woman being coerced into having an abortion, they are equally concerned with a woman being coerced into carrying a fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus to term.

After all, "[l]egal induced abortion is markedly safer than childbirth. The risk of death associated with childbirth is approximately 14 times higher than that with abortion. Similarly, the overall morbidity associated with childbirth exceeds that with abortion. (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22270271/>)

This bill amounts to nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to further entrench hostility towards pregnant women into Texas law.

Nina Nikolova
self
League city, TX

opposed

autumn keiser
self. Director of Marketing and Communications
Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to a bill written to appear beneficial but to in effect place shame and other barriers before Texans seeking a legal, safe abortion. All research shows that women who choose abortion do so after careful consideration of their options and the ramifications of the decision to terminate. Most are already parents well aware of the realities of parenthood and who love their children. Qualified healthcare providers provide additional resources and review options with patients to again ensure they are making an informed, empowered decision not coerced by others. Further, Texas state law already requires patients review a 24 page color booklet widely recognized as medically-inaccurate, manipulative, and shaming of women facing an unintended pregnancy. Additional forced "resource assistance" is an offensive burden that suggests women ponder the decision to terminate their pregnancy callously and flippantly when we know that they do not.

Lisa Tolhurst
self/RN

Dickinson, TX

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Oppose. Women should get counseling about pro life, abortion, and adoption. And put in a database managed by an undisclosed agency is unacceptable.

Deborah Roberson

Self- mental healthcare practitioner

Pflugerville, TX

I am in OPPOSITION to this bill. This will only delay the health care that the mother may need. It sounds like a pure delay tactic intending to scare the mother.

Do not sign this bill.

Betty Taylor

self

BROWNWOOD, TX

This bill is not enforceable, and does not provide equal protection for life in the womb. Please instead support HB 3326. Thank you.

Betty Taylor, 4414 Rosewood Drive, Brownwood, Tx 76801

Lynn Krasnow

Self

Austin, TX

Vote NO. Respect a woman's right to make decisions on these issues in conjunction with her religious beliefs, her family, and her doctor.

James Apple

Self

Kemah, TX

against

Kathy Turner

self, retired

McGregor, TX

I support this bill as it could be implemented immediately and save the lives of preborn Texans and prevent or relieve agony of pregnant women. I urge you to report this favorably out of committee. Thank you for holding a hearing on this bill.

Brittany Greece

self

North Richland Hills, TX

My name is Brittany Greece and I oppose House Bill 2313. Abortion access should be available with no restrictions. Abortion is healthcare.

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Anne Grinols

self - retired

Waco, TX

Medical decisions must be well informed to be good decisions -- good for all. Before any abortion is performed, full disclosure of all information -- from resource assistance, to access to a sonogram - should be made available. And there must be known ready access to medical care as might be needed -- before an abortion is performed. Without it, none should be performed.

Adrian Metzger

self

Luling, TX

I support this bill.

Julie Campbell

Self

Austin, TX

Passionate about torturing women? Forcing women to carry to term, and promising them that the state will “be there for them” is a lie! Monetary assistance? Because the state won’t even fund housing in Austin. The state REFUSED federal Medicare money! Please

Allison Smith, Ms.

Self, University Student

College Station, TX

Absolutely disgusting how this state continues to attack our rights to reproductive healthcare. There is NO scientific or legitimate reasoning for this legislation to exist outside of warped, twisted, unethical biases within our state government.

CH Campbell

retired

Austin, TX

The cost is \$7 million the benefit would last for two years after birth. Will they pay for childcare? and health care?

Julie Campbell

Self

Austin, TX

This does seem to be another level of bureaucracy along with the cost and invasion of privacy (data base). Yes, thank you—another person trying to talk women out of abortion, that is the goal. Very underhanded and costly.

Jennifer Fowler, Mrs.

AATX

Hutto, TX

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This bill in no way prevents the murder of our precious children! I ask that it be rewritten to actually call for abortion to be abolished in Texas and thereby showing honor to our God, the creator of life. Please uphold your oath to the constitution, not an oath to the courts which gave us Roe vs. Wade.

Blessings,
Jennifer

Julie Campbell

Self

Austin, TX

Agree. Creates false "care" centers that promotes false narrative about consequences and abortion IS health care!
AGREE. The government should not put any party between a patient (female or otherwise Mr Leach) and their doctor.
Where will the money come from, \$7 million?

Jill Oliver

Self

Buda, TX

I have a college degree from Texas Tech University in Industrial Engineering and I find navigating social services confusing, add to that being pregnant and it makes it even more difficult.

The service provided by HB2313 is optional to women. If they don't want help with their current concerns they can simply opt out. This can only help women.

There is a proven track record showing that when someone is able to talk to an actual person it is vastly more helpful than reading a pamphlet. We have seen evidence of this in many social service programs across the board. Please vote in support of HB 2313.

Julie Campbell

Self

Austin, TX

Functional healthcare systems include abortion!

Katherine McGovern

SELF

Dallas, TX

HB 2313: Requires patients seeking abortion to get counseling from a crisis pregnancy center. This Bill is against Democracy and the core principle that a woman is an independent person able to make her own decision(s) regarding which, if any entity, she wishes to receive counseling. The so-called "'crisis pregnancy center" is frequently a cover for religious, anti-abortion groups to shame or otherwise work to persuade or delay a women from proceeding with a medical termination of pregnancy. Vote NO!

Warren Harris

self

Dallas, TX

I think it is an abomination that a legislature comprised predominantly of conservative men has any business at all regulating women's reproductive rights. It is none of your business. Stay out of it. I guarantee at the next election I will be doing

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everything I can to get every possible Democrat to the polls to vote out anyone trying to limit women's rights in any way whatsoever.

Jill Robbins

Self

Holland, TX

More regulating of abortion! These bills that regulate how when and where a mother can destroy the life of her own child are not pro life! Please amend this wicked decrees and abolish the wickedness of baby murder. You are responsible before God for these wicked bills! This is not what the delegates of your party ask you to do!

Jessica Moreno

self, LCSW

Austin, TX

My name is Jessica Moreno and I write to oppose House Bill2313. For over 15 years I too have worked as a public servant for nonprofits serving women, children, and teens to address domestic and sexual violence in our state. Too often I've witnessed cases of coercion and rape that led to unintended pregnancies, and we know that pregnancy in can elevate violence in the context of a domestic violence relationship. To pass HB2313 would not only put women's lives at more risk, it would also increase safety risks and create unnecessary additional trauma for survivors at a time when their rights and autonomy have already been violated.

HB2313 violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. As a clinical social worker, I take HIPPA very seriously and am appalled that this bill would even be proposed.

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. For survivors going through this process, this adds another layer of safety and risk they would have to consider. The bill also requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide.

As a counselor we try to operate from a place of client autonomy and value not creating additional harm to clients. Abortions are emotional processes for any woman to go through. To force them through this extra layer of scrutiny, especially for survivors, creates re-traumatization and is simply unnecessary. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

Women and medical experts have the lived experiences and education to provide recommendations on reproductive care, NOT legislators. It has been devastating to see my representatives chose to focus on divisive, personal views by passing this stream of anti-abortion bills rather than on issues that impact us all and need real attention like the welfare and education of the children that are already in this world. I write today to urge you to stop these harmful anti-abortion bills and leave choice where it belongs - the person who's uterus is impacted.

Laura Payet

Self - legal writer

Austin, TX

This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. Once again, this is ridiculous. So-called crisis pregnancy centers are not medical providers and have no business interfering in the relationship between a woman and her doctor. This is simply another tactic to try to shame women exercising their constitutional right to decide whether to carry a pregnancy to term.

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Kristen Washington

self

Austin, TX

Dear leaders,

As Gov Abbot as clearly taken a stance on personal, medical information being kept private (look to vaccine passport issue) it would be completely hypocritical to pass a bill that would let stranger view or have access medical history and information without permission, or to someone that is not a chosen health care provider. Texas has time and time again balked against the government interference until it comes down to women's health. Do not pass this harmful bill.

Sarah Payet

Self, Student

Austin, TX

Genuine question: why do you hate women?

Sonya Roberts

Myself

Wimberley, TX

Women's health care is regulated far more than men, this bill would be putting yet another opinionated person in the way of a woman making her own health care choice. Imagine if in making a moral decision about anything but first you have to include family and complete strangers in your own personal choices. As a woman, we should be given the right to make our own choice without having to talk to another biased person, Google is quite apt in doing that for today's woman without bias.

Lola Hurt

self/retired

Addison, TX

I am urging the committee to reject the continued| "regulation of abortion" and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas! How many more babies have to die before we stop making more laws to keep allowing babies to be killed!!!! Other states have abolished abortion why doesn't Texas?!

Ricardo Martinez

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Ricardo and I oppose HB 2313. This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information the abortion provider must provide. This bill violates the privacy of Texans by creating a record and two-factor authentication of people and seeking abortions and forcing them to reveal their medical decisions to unlicensed strangers who are not their healthcare providers. I trust Texans to work together with their doctors to arrive at a decision that is best for them without government interference. Please reject this bill.

BRIAN SANDLER

BLM, NAACP, SPLC

Arlington, TX

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How about instead supporting better sex education and access to contraceptives to limit unwanted pregnancies and increasing access to healthcare to try to prevent fetal issues that result in unwanted terminations? Do something that's actually effective and helpful for people.

Tonya Cauduro

Self - Small Business Owner

Lewisville, TX

I oppose House Bill 2313 because women must have the right to choose what happens to their own bodies. Please reject this legislation!

Renee Sabel

Self

San Antonio, TX

This is an unnecessary burden to women seeking an abortion, which is LEGAL. I oppose it.

brian rogers

Law Office of Brian J. Rogers

Friendswood, TX

Oppose this bullshit.

Sheereen Ibtesam, Miss

Progress Texas

Fort Worth, TX

Abortion is safe.

Abortion is necessary.

Abortion is a right.

Abortion is health care.

Stop your unconstitutional bill nonsense.

It's women's bodies women's choices.

Women don't need religious assistance or anything against the woman's choice.

Christina Gunter

Self

Coppell, TX

As a Texas citizen I reject this extreme legislation. Limiting access to abortion, limiting the time frame it must be done in, and on top of that adding MORE required steps before hand puts women in a near impossible position. This legislation along with the other five are all oppressing women and their rights to their reproductive system. Only a woman and her doctor should be making decisions regarding this. Passing ANY of these legislations will take us back to a time when women were dying from not having access to LEGAL abortions. As a woman this is absolutely terrifying to me. I am married and on birth control as we do not want to have children. Pregnancy would be dangerous for me, and birth control is not 100% effective. If these legislations were to pass I would not feel safe living in the state of Texas.

Abigail OConnor

self

Austin, TX

Abortion access should not be restricted

Amanda Ortiz

Lockheed Martin

Austin, TX

I OPPOSE this bill. Women needing medical assistance should receive RELIABLE AND FACTUAL information from medical doctors, especially OBGYN's. This bill to create a hotline is misleading to people in need of real help.

Mabel Terminel

Self

El Paso, TX

Opposed to this gross overreach of government authority over women's bodies and autonomy

Kat Beamer

Self

Wimberley, TX

My name is Kat and I oppose House Bill 2313. As a fertile woman who could have children when she so chooses this bill impacts me directly. I want a choice, I deserve a choice and I will always have a choice. A bill such as this will force many to take actions that will undoubtedly kill or render themselves infertile. Religion has no say on my body, to use any form of religious text or belief does not warrant a lawmaker personal bias on me. I have freewill to choose when to be sexually active, to use the protection I find best for my body, including having an abortion if my birth control fails. Having an abortion three years ago has allowed me to grow into a meritorious wife, Aunt, sister and employee. I have no regrets in my decision, especially because it was done in a safe and healthy manner. Having access to a doctor and nurse who have performed abortions, even on the same day is a right, their first hand knowledge is what makes them professional and creates confidence. Forcing someone to work with a doctor or nurse who has not done an abortion in two years is heinous. Would you see an eye doctor for surgery who hasn't operated in two years? NO! Forcing this bill and removing healthy access to abortion for anyone at anytime, will create more death than life. I urge you to not sign this bill. I implore you not to sign this bill. I beseech you not to sign this bill. Please do not sign this bill.

Berenice Craig

not applicable

Austin, TX

This bill is a misuse of government, as it requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling from state contractors, often issue-biased Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion and is an attempt to coerce a patient against their will.

Abortion providers currently carry the burden of being required to obtain informed consent in addition to the already state-mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. Please oppose this bill, as it is simply another attempt by partisan lawmakers to usurp a woman's right to dictate her own life and healthcare choices.

margaret burke

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self, venue manager

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose the consideration of this bill, for the safety of women.

Barbara Walters

Avow Foundation for Abortion Access

Plano, TX

This represents undue burden to both the woman and her health care provider. Abortion is legal and processes are in place to assist the woman in her decision. This is excessive and obviously written to further prevent a woman from doing what she has decided to do and is legally able to do by choice with her own body.

Ana Rodriguez

Self

Houston, TX

My name is Ana Rodriguez, submitting comment against HB 2313 on behalf of myself.

HB 2313 would grossly violate Texans' right to medical privacy. This bill would require Texans to reveal their medical decisions to third party anti-abortion state vendors before accessing abortion care, would keep track of Texans' personal healthcare decisions.

Texans should not be unwillingly forced to carry a pregnancy to term, and they should not be forced to speak to anti-abortion extremists that operate so called "crisis pregnancy centers" (CPCs) before being able to access abortion care. It is bad enough that Texas diverts \$90 million as a special interest handout provided through the Alternatives to Abortion Program, now anti-abortion politicians want to force Texans who are sure about their decision to have an abortion into these fake and biased centers.

CPCs are unlicensed, non-medical, religiously affiliated, clinics that provide false and misleading information to people seeking abortions. HB 2313 would force Texans seeking abortion care into biased, coercive, unregulated non-medical services masquerading as "counseling" with the ultimate goal of shaming a patient out of the decision to have an abortion from anti-abortion extremists at CPCs. Abortion is a safe medical procedure that does not require expanded counseling.

All medical providers, including abortion providers, are already ethically bound to provide patients with information and options, procedure details and any other information a provider deems pertinent after assessing each patient's unique health needs and circumstances. Additionally, abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking.

HB 2313 would require inappropriate interference by anti-abortion state vendors between Texans and their doctors and could prevent Texans from accessing abortion care at all. By requiring that the anti-abortion state contractor certify to the commission that the patient received the "offer" resources and use this patient's "identifying number" to do so before an abortion can move forward, this would effectively give a third party entity absolute control and veto power over a person's decision to terminate a pregnancy. The state contractor could refuse to issue the certificate, or make scheduling the counseling onerous, or place any number of obstacles between a patient and their doctor. For all these reasons, I urge the committee to vote against HB 2313.

Rebecca Bowers

Self / Accountant

Fort Worth, TX

It is a woman's right to choose what is done with her body. It is not the right of the state to dictate a human beings choices regarding their own reproduction. Just like it would not be right to dictate a man get a vasectomy.

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Briana Miles
Self, Community Organizer
Sugar Land, TX

Hi my name is Briana Miles and I oppose HB 2313

This bill requires inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship. The bill requires a patient to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, often Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion. In addition to the information, the abortion provider must provide. Abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence, and human trafficking, in addition to the already state-mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure. This bill is an attempt by the state to interfere with a personal medical decision. If someone makes the decision to have an abortion they shouldn't have to jump through bureaucratic hoops filled with state-funded misinformation. Trust doctors, trust science, and oppose HB 2313.

Jasmine Tolhurst
Texas Democratic Women of Galveston County and self as a student of UHCL
Dickinson, TX

Opposed. Abortions should be a decision between a woman and her doctor and should be an option to her. No one should dictate a woman's life choices. God invites us all into communion with the understanding we are all sinners and will forever be sinners falling short of his glory. If these decisions are based on the legalism of certain religions that directly violates separation of church and state. Our laws should be based on research and facts given by experts in their fields. Banning abortion is not aligned with what is best to support the mental health of women or families. Texas already does not want to help the children and families who already exist by saying social programs are too expensive and handouts. What do you plan on doing when there are even more children and women and families suffering? Women should be informed if every option available. Extra litigation and emotional and financial burdens on women is not right. You are taking away women's freedoms and her autonomy over her own body. Pro-birthing like you are advocating is Anti-freedom and it is unAmerican. Women should have the right to choose the healthcare option that is right for her. The choice to end a pregnancy is not up to the Texas Legislative body to decide for her.

Jasmine Tolhurst
Texas Democratic Women of Galveston County and self as a student at UHCL
Dickinson, TX

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Lynn Stahl
National Council of Jewish Women
San Antonio, TX

We strongly oppose this draconian bill.

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Regina Beavers

Self

Eules, TX

Oppose

Amanda Moorhead

Self, OT

Lubbock, TX

Stop trying to force women to undergo unnecessary counseling services before they can receive abortion care. The only advice they should be seeking is the medical advice from their healthcare provider. I am strongly opposed to this house bill.

Karl Holbert

Self

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 2313

Monica Holbert

Self, graphic designer

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 2313.

Darlene Holbert

Self, retired

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 2313

Burt Holbert

Self, student

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 2313

Madeline Oden

Self- Reporter

Temple, TX

This bill is unconstitutional and violates the humanitarian rights of women am Deeply against this bill, as well as the bills HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337/ SB 394, HB 2313/SB 802, HB 3218/ SB 1173, HB 3760/ SB 1647.

These bills do not benefit anyone, not even the babies the bills are claiming to protect. They are unjustly taking the rights away from families to privacy, proper and safe medical care, and a choice that should only affect that family and their doctors. As a

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believer in texas, a Christian, and a woman. I beg you to reconsider passing these bills.

Karen Kelley
self, Administrative
Austin, TX

I oppose hb 2313. Instilling this processes in Healthcare after decisions have been made make it onerous on the provider as well as the patient. Healthcare is between a doctor and patient.

Caitlin Flynt
Self
Dallas, TX

My name is Caitlin Flynt and I am writing to you today to express my opposition to House Bill 2313. This bill is an egregious violation of Texans' right to privacy and creates a record and two-factor authentication of people seeking abortions, forcing them to reveal their personal medical decisions to unlicensed strangers.

House Bill 2313 requires a hugely inappropriate interference by a third party into the doctor-patient relationship by forcing a patient to receive so-called "counseling" from state contractors, often misleading and manipulative Crisis Pregnancy Centers, before an abortion, in addition to the information that the abortion provider is already required to provide. This is a massie breach of Texans' privacy and would be handing their personal information away to unlicensed strangers who are not their chosen healthcare providers. Passing a bill like this that so blatantly disregards Texans' right to their personal privacy shows Texans that the state does not value their autonomy, which is a wild deviation from the independent values that have historically defined Texas.

I am a Texan - your constituent - and I value Texans' right to abortion access. As someone who has had an abortion that gave me the wonderful life I have today, affirming Texans' access to the vital healthcare that they seek is personal.

This House Bill 2313 is quite frankly an invasion of Texans' privacy, which itself is a violation of Texan values. I am urging you as someone who loves this state and its people to oppose this legislation and vote NO on HB 2313.

Ethan Wayland
self
McKinney, TX

Abortion is safe.
Abortion is necessary.
Abortion is a right.
Abortion is health care.

AJ Price, Mx.
self, sole proprietor of AJ Price Design
League City, TX

I reject government overreach into private medical decisions. If you believe in resource access assistance, support Planned Parenthood clinics.

David Elam
Self, business owner

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Rowlett, TX

Dear representatives,

While I appreciate your desire to diminish the number of abortions in our state, the only true remedy to save lives is to abolish abortion. As a proud life-long Texan, I urge you to hear HB 3326, which would abolish the barbaric, inhumane, and scientifically unconscionable practice of abortion. This must be done immediately. Saving a few more lives through regulation is not what our unborn children deserve. All life deserves to be protected from conception to natural death. Thank you for considering this important matter which is a very important issue to so many Texans. God bless you as you serve our people, including the pre-born.

CARISA BALMOS

Jane's Due Process

Richardson, TX

I ask that you stand with me in opposing HB 2313. Women have been receiving misleading and medically inaccurate information about abortion since the "Women's Right to Know Act" was passed in 2003. They also have to wait an additional 24 hours after they receive the information before receiving an abortion, further delaying the procedure. Now Texas wants to assign a tracking number to every woman who receives the procedure under HB 2313? HB 2313 is aimed at scaring a woman out of having an abortion, placing further barriers on a woman's right to an abortion under the 14th Amendment's "right to privacy." HB 2313 is unconstitutional because it removes a woman's "right to privacy" by cataloging abortion procedures. A woman's decision to obtain an abortion is already difficult enough without being reduced to a tracking number.

Brianna Donnelly

Self

Frisco, TX

Abortion is safe.

Abortion is necessary.

Abortion is a right.

Abortion is health care!!!

Megan Baker

Self, childcare

Austin, TX

This bill mandates the violation of privacy. Abortion providers already work under a great many restrictions and requirements.

Maggi Carter, Ms.

Self/retired

Beaumont, TX

The State of Texas needs to stay out of the personal medical health decisions of people.

Maggi Carter, Ms.

Self/retired

Beaumont, TX

The State of Texas needs to stay out of the personal medical health decisions of Texans.

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Harold Scott
Self
League City, TX

Oppose

Shantia Reese
Self
Austin, TX

You say you are pro-life, and I am pro-life as well. I believe that injustice that happens when the police kill unarmed black people is murder. I believe that the people that can buy guns anywhere and then commit mass shootings are murders. The people who hurt them, i.e., the police that shoot unarmed black people, should be held accountable and never be a part of the police force or work in government or security. I believe that all these people that have lost their lives deserve their lives, and you should be working on laws that protect their lives. I believe that we should be protecting people even after they are born and creating laws and infrastructure that protect them. Such as medicare for all, such as the John Lewis Voting Rights, such as the American Rescue Plan, raise the minimum wage.

I believe that a woman has the decision to determine what happens in her life. That a woman's life should be treated with dignity and respect. By choosing to limit abortion as healthcare, you tell all women that they do not have ownership of their life and that somehow an unborn fetus has equal rights over her body. It is a woman's right to make decisions about her body. It is not the government's place to control women's rights nor deny her the ability to decide what is best for her and her life. I am pro-abortion because being able to delay and limit childbearing is fundamental to female empowerment and equality. A woman who lacks the means to manage her fertility lacks the means to manage her life—any plans, dreams, aspirations, responsibilities, or commitments. Additionally, well-timed pregnancies give children a healthier start in life. We now have ample evidence that babies do best when women can space their pregnancies and get prenatal and preconception care. The specific nutrients we ingest in the weeks before we get pregnant can have a lifelong effect on our offspring's well-being. Rapid repeat pregnancies increase the risk of low birth-weight babies and other complications.

Republicans talk all the time about the federal government controlling the state, but you all are trying to control our bodies. The government should not be trying to make it harder for women to go through this difficult process as it is not the easiest decision for some. Women are not property, and there are no government issues that restrict a man's bodily autonomy, but you consistently try to control a woman's bodily autonomy. This is not right, nor does it feel legal. This is discriminatory toward females. There is no medical reason to increase abortion restriction laws, but medical evidence reaffirms the choice for pregnancy should be the child-bearers decision. Reproduction is a highly imperfect process. Genetic recombination is a complicated progression with flaws and false starts at every step along the way. Contraceptives are imperfect, and people are too. The pill is 1960s technology, now half a century old. For decades, women were told that the pill w

Shantia Reese
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Austin, TX

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Joan Edelstein

Self (Textile Artist)

Austin, TX

I am completely opposed to this bill and any bill which, in my opinion, tries to control unfairly women's rights re reproductive health and choice.

virginia hurley, mrs

self/teacher

pflugerville, TX

Help and honor spoken to the Mom to give her a true understanding.

Kayla Perez

Self

San Antonio, TX

My name is Ms. Perez and I oppose House Bill HB1280

This bill is unconstitutional.

You are aware of the implications of how this will harm Texans.

It is a violation of bodily autonomy.

You are chose not to listen and legislate by empirical and tangible evidence.

Texas should not be violating human rights.

Mary Ambrose

self

Austin, TX

I wish to comment and voice my concern about several bills intended to restrict access to, criminalize, and otherwise harm people seeking the provision of an abortion in Texas, including HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218, HB 1173 and HB 3760. Individually and as a whole these bills would have harmful impacts for people seeking an abortion and disempower these individuals from making decisions about their own life and well-being. Instead of shaming and criminalizing individuals seeking abortion through legislative attack, elected officials should be aspiring to make changes that align with the values and improve

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the well-being of their constituents. Polling by the Texas Politics Project in February 2021 found that 55% of Texans believe that abortion laws should either be less strict or left as they are now, compared to 32% that believe they should be more strict (<https://texaspolitics.utexas.edu/set/should-abortion-laws-be-more-or-less-strict-february-2021>). Proposed bills that further restrict access to abortion such as HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218, HB 1173 and HB 3760 do not line up with the opinion of most Texans and would cause unnecessary harm to individuals seeking an abortion and I urge you not to support these proposals.

Donna Lipman

self

Austin, TX

I oppose!!! Stop it!!! Take care of the kids that are already here before you trying to bring more unwanted children into the world. Or spend your time and money EDUCATING kids.

Donna Lipman

self

Austin, TX

I oppose! Stop it.

Corlie Jackson

self

Galveston, TX

OPPOSE!! Such counseling mandates run the risk of emotional manipulation, abuse and undue psychological hardship for anyone already trying to reconcile their situation. Counseling needs to be the choice of the woman.

brandie baker

self

austin, TX

I'd like to put in my opposition to HB 2313.

Bill Roberts

Self

Driftwood, TX

Evidence shows that when given support and assistance many women will choose to keep their child. Pass this bill.

Brian 207

self

Austin, TX

I do not agree with this bill at all.

Andrew LeCody

self - Senior Engineer

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Carrollton, TX

Laws that limit access to health resources, remove a person's ability to make decisions for themselves or create a chilling effect on the providers of these services is immoral and unconstitutional. Pregnancy, whether intentional or accidental, is a purely personal experience and no one has claim to a woman's body but herself. Stripping a person of their bodily autonomy by masquerading it as compassion is a vile and uniquely evil form of oppression.

Bodily autonomy, self determination, self defense, and other human rights must never be infringed. I oppose HB 2313 and any similar bill.

Neesha Davé, Ms.

Lilith Fund

Austin, TX

We oppose HB 2313.

HB 2313 would violate Texans' right to receive relevant, accurate and unbiased information prior to obtaining medical care, and it would violate Texans' right to medical privacy. This bill would require Texans to reveal their medical decisions to strangers who are third party anti-abortion state vendors before accessing abortion care.

Texans should not be forced to carry a pregnancy to term, and they should not be forced to speak to anti-abortion extremists that operate so called "crisis pregnancy centers" (CPCs) before being able to access abortion care. It is bad enough that Texas diverts \$90 million as a special interest handout through the Alternatives to Abortion Program—now anti-abortion politicians want to force Texans who are have decided to seek abortion care into these fake and biased centers.

CPCs are unlicensed, non-medical, religiously-affiliated centers that provide false and misleading information to people seeking abortions. SB 802 would force Texans seeking abortion care into biased, coercive, unregulated non-medical services masquerading as "counseling" with the ultimate goal of shaming a patient out of the decision to have an abortion from anti-abortion extremists at CPCs. Abortion is a safe medical procedure that does not require expanded counseling. All medical providers, including abortion providers, are already ethically bound to provide patients with information and options, procedure details and any other information a provider deems pertinent after assessing each patient's unique health needs and circumstances. Additionally, abortion providers are already required to obtain informed consent and be trained to identify coercion, family violence and human trafficking, in addition to the already state-mandated counseling and sonogram 24 hours before a procedure.

HB 2313 would require inappropriate interference by anti-abortion state vendors between Texans and their doctors and could prevent Texans from accessing abortion care at all. By requiring that the anti-abortion state contractor certify to the commission that the patient received the "offer" resources and use this patient's "identifying number" to do so before an abortion can move forward, this would effectively give a third party entity absolute control and veto power over a person's decision to terminate a pregnancy. The state contractor could refuse to issue the certificate, or make scheduling the counseling onerous, or place any number of obstacles between a patient and their doctor. For all these reasons, we urge the committee to oppose HB 2313.

Leah Krumholz

Self, Social Media Writer

Austin, TX

This bill is NOT about protecting life; it's about controlling women. It is a woman's right as a human being to decide what to do with her body. Since a fetus is not a separate entity from its mother and cannot sustain life outside of the uterus, it should NOT be granted more bodily autonomy than the mother carrying it. Just as you cannot force a person to donate blood or organs against their will, even for the purpose of saving another's life, you should not be able to force a woman to carry to term a pregnancy she does not want and/or one that would put her health at risk. I fear for every Texas woman's wellbeing if this bill comes to pass. Instead of criminalizing abortion, which further puts the mother's life at risk if they decide to self-terminate a pregnancy, it would be more advantageous to make access to birth control and sex education affordable and accessible, as doing so would decrease the number of abortions performed.

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Shannon Morse

self

Dallas, TX

Any materials provided should come from health providers or other counsel sought by the woman. Again, it should be HER choice. Do we require this of other elective procedures? Plastic surgeries? Colonoscopies? Do we want the state to be the source of information about medical procedures? I oppose HB 2313.

Marilyn Hartman

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose any abortion law that is more restrictive than what is currently allowed under Roe vs. Wade. The laws being put forth are promulgated by legislators' personal religious beliefs without regard to the personal beliefs or difficult situations of the women or families involved. Government officials have no place in deciding what a woman faces who has to make one of the most difficult decisions of her life. In addition, the beliefs of those pushing these bills are not dictated by science, which indicates that a fetus is not a viable human being until later in the gestation period; there is also evidence that a fetus does not feel pain during the time when a fetus can be legally aborted.

Years ago, a woman who reported to me in the workplace had to make the decision to have an abortion. She and her husband already had two children and knew they could not support another, and yet she found herself pregnant. The decision to have an abortion was jointly made by the husband and wife; this decision was wrenching. This mother had considerable anguish, and yet, for her and her husband, it was the right decision. These decisions are highly personal, but to have made her carry an unwanted child to term is cruel and unusual punishment.

I'm old enough to have been a young woman in the days when abortions were not legal. Women resorted to all kinds of interventions to terminate unwanted pregnancies, including coat hangers, from which many became infected, sterile, or dead. This is not what we want to bring back. Unwanted pregnancies do happen, even with the best preventative measures, not to mention rape, incest and other unsavory happenings in which the woman has no control.

PLEASE DO NOT PASS THESE RADICAL ABORTION BILLS. YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO FOIST YOUR VALUES AND CONSCIENCE ON OTHERS; THEY HAVE THEIR OWN VALUES AND CONSCIENCE TO GUIDE THEM IN WHAT IS RIGHT FOR THEM. IT IS NOT YOUR BUSINESS, AND ABORTIONS ARE NOT MURDER UNDER CURRENT LAW.

Donna Lyons, Mrs.

Self

Austin, TX

Please give woman a chance to get help before having an abortion. Vote to pass this bill.
Thank you for serving our great state of Texas

Kailea Humphreys

Self

Dallas, TX

I support this bill and ask all members to do the same.

Lauren Oden

Self

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Austin, TX

If the "pro-life" senators & representatives actually CARED about lives, they would consider the heartbreaking difficulties and choices that can come with pregnancy.

They'd write bills in support of equal access to mental healthcare and temporary work leave for women who experience the worst news they could ever hear.

They'd stop seeking individual retribution and punishments for abortion providers and their patients, and work toward equal access to contraception and ACTUAL sex education across the state (& I say this as a Texas teacher who taught sex ed).

This bill is unconstitutional, an invasion of citizen's rights to privacy, and unhelpful in terms of lowering abortion rates and I urge the committees and state representatives to consider the actual good of their constituents - not the contents of their uteruses.

Peggy Williams

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I strongly support this bill. If this had been offered to me I may have chosen not to have an abortion. Abortion hurts mothers and fathers and has long term emotional consequences.

Pat Williams

Self

Cedar Park, TX

This bill would insure that educated choices could be made rather than just based on emotions. Support options could make all the difference for the parents and the unborn.

Andrea Ferrigno

Whole Woman's Health

McAllen, TX

My name is Andrea Ferrigno, I am the Corporate Vice President for Whole Woman's Health. I submit this testimony in opposition to House Bill 2313 because we have seen firsthand the harm that crisis pregnancy centers (CPCs) cause to the communities we serve. These facilities provide false, stigmatizing information to people seeking abortion care during a time when correct medical information is needed most. These Centers also hire "sidewalk counselors" with the specific purpose to harass and attack our staff and patients when coming to the clinic.

House Bill 2313 will require abortion patients in Texas to receive counseling or a "resource access assistance offer" from state contractors, i.e. CPCs. We know that the state contractors identified in this bill are CPCs because as of now CPCs receive more than \$80 million from a state funded program called Alternatives To Abortion.

This bill would place additional barriers and obstacles on abortion care, which is already hard to obtain in Texas due to years of medically unnecessary abortion laws and restrictions. Under this bill's language patients would not be able to access abortion care until the third party counselor certifies the patient has received the offer of resources.

While there are over 200 CPCs in Texas, there are only 22 clinics that provide abortions. Many CPCs are unlicensed, non-medical facilities which are not required to maintain patient confidentiality or hire licensed medical staff, and many of them setup shop next to real abortion clinics as a tactic to lure patients inside to shame and lie to them about abortion care.

This bill also creates a database of every person who sought abortion care in Texas, which is a violation of patient privacy. The

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statewide database puts people at risk for exploring all their healthcare options. For all these reasons, we oppose House Bill 2313.

Kevin Welch

EFF-Austin

Austin, TX

Dear Members Of The Texas Legislature,

My name is Kevin Welch, and I am writing on behalf of EFF-Austin, an Austin-based digital civil liberties group. I am writing to you to register our extreme concern with the way that HB 2313 is currently written, specifically with regards to the creation of a software database that will centralize and track information on everyone who has sought abortion services in the state of Texas. Regardless of how securely this database is implemented, as we have seen time and time again, it is not a matter of if this database will eventually be leaked to the public, but when, exposing extremely sensitive personal medical records to the world at large, information that could put women in danger if known to the wrong parties. It is nobody's business, including the state of Texas, when a woman chooses to seek out abortion services, and creating a master database of women who have sought abortion services represents a clear violation of the right to privacy around abortion that the Supreme Court established in Roe v Wade is implicitly guaranteed by the 4th and 1st amendments of the US Constitution. We understand that the bill's goal may be to verify that women have received the legally mandated abortion alternatives counseling before they are allowed to receive an abortion in the state of Texas, but regardless of the bill's stated goal and regardless of the arguments for and against mandating this sort of counseling in the first place, the fact remains that the current proposed way to verify this information is being done in a way that is creating a list of everyone who has sought out an abortion in Texas, a list that there is no way to remove oneself from, even if someone ultimately chooses not to get an abortion. We urge the bill's authors that, barring withdrawing this bill altogether, they amend it such that it will no longer involve the creation of this database. There are plenty of alternative ways that the committee could establish mandating the desired counseling that would not involve collecting and storing personally identifying information on citizens in perpetuity, such as requiring abortion facilities to employ and offer such services in-house before treatment may be received. We urge you to make these proposed changes and respect the privacy rights of women in Texas. Thank you for reading this and for your time.

Sincerely,

Kevin Welch