

2010 -- S 2140

LC00479

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - ABORTION

Introduced By: Senators Blais, McCaffrey, and Goodwin

Date Introduced: February 04, 2010

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 23-4.7 of the General Laws entitled "Informed Consent for  
2 Abortion" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following sections:

3 **23-4.7-1.1. "Forced and required" defined.** – For the purposes of this chapter, the  
4 terms "forced and required" shall mean being coerced, pressured, threatened, physically,  
5 emotionally, psychologically or otherwise, including the loss of employment or any social  
6 assistance of any type in which such pregnant woman is already participating, harassed or  
7 ordered by any agency or department of the State of Rhode Island or any employee thereof.

8 **23-4.7-9. Civil action for abortion against women's will.** – Any woman who is forced  
9 or required to have an abortion against her will and without her free consent, shall be entitled to  
10 bring a civil action for torturous conduct against the person, persons or state agency or any  
11 subdivision thereof who forced or required her to have an abortion in contravention of this  
12 chapter within three (3) years of her eighteenth birthday or within three (3) years of the date of  
13 the abortion if the woman is more than eighteen (18) years of age at the time of the abortion. In  
14 addition to the action for herself, the woman shall have a right of action for wrongful death of the  
15 unborn child against the person, persons, agencies, departments, whether private or public, who  
16 forced or required her to have an abortion.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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- 1           This act would prohibit any woman from being forced to have an abortion against her
- 2 will, and would provide for civil remedies for any abortion forced upon or required of a woman.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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