



January 26, 2023

Members of the Public Safety Finance and Policy
House of Representatives
State Office Building
100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Members,

Minnesota Family Council submitted the following testimony on HF 91 in the House Health Finance and Policy Committee hearing on January 12, 2023.

Based on the continued discussion in the Minnesota legislature, Minnesota Family Council reaffirms its opposition of the bill.

HF 91 will force all Minnesotans to pay for all abortion services. Currently, Minnesotans pay for abortions through Medical Assistance in cases of rape, incest, or when the life of the mother is in danger; according to data from the Minnesota Department of Health reported below, these cases are a small percentage of the responses as to why most women seek abortion. The bill repeals the Minnesota statutes which ensure that women have informed consent before an abortion. Finally, this bill legalizes the right to leave babies born during abortion on a cold table to die. This is unconscionable and certainly a threat to public safety.

By legalizing infanticide, HF 91 is extreme.

We ask you to vote against this bill.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Delahunt
Acting Director of Public Policy



January 12, 2022

Members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee
House of Representatives
State Office Building
100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Dear Members,

Minnesota Family Council represents tens of thousands of families across the state, and on their behalf, we **urge you to oppose HF 91.**

The extreme bill HF 91 strips many statutory protections for pregnant women and forces all Minnesotans to pay for all abortion services through Medical Assistance.

Among other protections, this bill will repeal the law known as Women's Right to Know Act which ensures that women have a right to know the risks of abortion, such as "hemorrhage, breast cancer, danger to subsequent pregnancies, and infertility".¹ Stripping informed consent from pregnant women seeking abortion is unethical and extreme. Pregnant women should know the risks they face from abortion and give full consent to any procedures. Affording women choice means that all the information should be available. What other medical procedures are allowed without informed consent?

With the passage of HF 91, all Minnesotans will be forced to pay for all abortion services through Medical Assistance. Current statute limits taxpayer dollars from paying for abortion unless the mother's life is in danger due to the pregnancy or when the woman is pregnant because of criminal sexual activity such as rape and incest. According to the Minnesota Department of Health's report on 2021 abortions, there were 44 responses of pregnancy due to rape, and 11 responses that pregnancy was a result of incest.² Together, these responses are fractions of a percentage of the 12,462 total responses to the survey.

By repealing the statutes which limit taxpayer dollars to fund abortions in the above outlier circumstances, the Minnesota legislature is placing a burden on Minnesotans. In 2022, a poll conducted by SurveyUSA and reported by *KSTP* found that only 30% of Minnesotans believe abortion should be legal under any circumstance, without limits.³ The 70% of Minnesotans who do not support abortion without limits likely do not want to personally pay for abortions of children conceived under any and every situation. This extreme bill opposes the values of most Minnesotans.

Finally, this bill repeals the Born Alive Infants Protections Act. Under that law, children born alive during an abortion procedure shall be afforded the care due to preserve the life of that baby.⁴ In the Department of Health's annual abortion report cited above, "5 abortion procedures resulting in a born-alive infant were reported [in 2021.]" Any baby born alive must be afforded the full rights of protection as a person. Based on

¹Women's Right to Know Act, MN. Stat. §145.4242 (2003 & rev. 2006).

²Minnesota Department of Health. (2022) *Induced Abortions in Minnesota January – December 2021*. Author.

³*Results of surveyusa news poll #26527 - kstp.com*. KSTP. (2022). Retrieved January 11, 2023, from <https://kstp.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/SurveyUSA-abortion-10-07-22.pdf>

⁴Born Alive Infants Protection Act, MN. Stat. §145.423 (1976 & rev. 1997 & 2015).

the Department of Health's reporting on infants born alive during attempted abortion, these births exist. Repealing the Born Alive Infants Protection Act exposes babies to infanticide.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Delahunt
Acting Director of Public Policy