

Protect Women's Health

OPPOSE Medically Unnecessary Mandates HB 422 Delegate Marshall and HB 1315 Delegate Byron

HB 422 requires that two different physicians date a pregnancy before an abortion can be provided, which could entail two ultrasounds.

HB 1315 requires that an ultrasound be performed at least 24 hours before providing an abortion.

An ultrasound is a medical procedure, not a political tool.

- The government should not mandate a procedure when it is not medically necessary.
- The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), a leading women's health organization, does not require an ultrasound before providing a first trimester abortion.
- Mandating an ultrasound places an undue burden on the woman that could cause delays and barriers to accessing abortion services. Ultrasounds cost several hundred dollars and may not be covered by insurance when they are not medically necessary.

Health care decisions are best made by families and their medical providers – not the General Assembly.

- A physician is the best judge of when an ultrasound is medically necessary. These mandates set a dangerous precedent for all Virginians.
- Leading medical organizations, such as the American Medical Association, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Medical Women's Association and the American Public Health Association oppose procedure-specific informed consent requirements that interfere with the doctor-patient relationship or compromise a physician's medical judgments to what information or treatment is in the best interest of the patient.

Virginia Pro-Choice Coalition

American Association of University Women of Virginia ♦ American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia ♦ League of Women Voters of Virginia ♦ NARAL Pro-Choice Virginia ♦ National Association of Social Workers – Virginia ♦ National Organization for Women – Virginia ♦ Planned Parenthood Advocates of Virginia ♦ Population Connection ♦ Republican Majority for Choice ♦ Virginia Women's Attorney Association ♦ Virginia Young Democrats ♦ Women's National Democratic Club

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