

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 6

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

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A JOINT MEMORIAL

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO DIRECT THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO
ADOPT REGULATIONS PROHIBITING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR
LATE-TERM ABORTIONS USING THE PROCEDURE OF PARTIAL-BIRTH
ABORTION.

WHEREAS, abortions are performed late in the second and in the third trimesters of a woman's pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, these procedures are known to have potentially serious consequences to the mother; and

WHEREAS, a part of these late-term abortions are performed using a procedure called "partial-birth abortion" in which a baby is partially delivered and then killed, after which the head of the dead baby is subsequently removed from the mother's body in a manner potentially injurious to the mother; and

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WHEREAS, the procedure described does not fulfill a legitimate interest of government in safeguarding health, maintaining medical standards and protecting life; and

WHEREAS, this procedure is abhorrent to persons who value human life and believe the government at every level should recognize this belief and take positive steps to prevent subversion of this value system without regard to individuals' opinions and strongly held views on the subject of abortion generally; and

WHEREAS, it is repugnant to the vast majority of the citizens of New Mexico that public funds may be used to pay for the procedure described;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor exercise his executive authority and direct the human services department to develop and adopt a regulation prohibiting the use of any state funds to purchase abortion services involving the use of the partial-birth abortion procedure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be forthwith delivered to the governor and to the secretary of human services.

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