

I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 1373:

1. **Impact on IVF (In Vitro Fertilization) Services:** By defining an unborn child as a human being from the moment of fertilization, the bill could potentially criminalize IVF procedures. This would severely limit the options for families struggling with infertility, as IVF involves creating embryos outside the womb and not all embryos are implanted.
2. **Miscarriage Management:** The bill's provisions for the unintentional death and injury of an unborn child may not sufficiently cover all medical scenarios. For instance, managing incomplete miscarriages, where some fetal tissue remains in the uterus, might be complicated by the legal implications of the bill. This could put women's health at significant risk due to potential delays in receiving necessary medical care.
3. **Autonomy and Reproductive Rights:** The bill could severely limit a woman's autonomy over her reproductive decisions. Questions arise about the availability of emergency contraception (Plan B) and the options for women who have been victims of rape. There is also concern about the mother's life being at risk if the bill's stipulations restrict access to necessary medical procedures.
4. **Legal and Medical Ambiguities:** The definitions and exceptions provided in the bill may create legal ambiguities for healthcare providers, potentially leading to a chilling effect where doctors might hesitate to perform certain procedures out of fear of legal repercussions. This could result in delays or denial of critical healthcare for women.
5. **Broad Definitions:** By defining "human being" and "person" to include an unborn child from the moment of fertilization, the bill could extend legal personhood to embryos, affecting various aspects of reproductive healthcare and potentially leading to further legislative restrictions.

These points highlight significant concerns about the potential impact of House Bill 1373 on reproductive healthcare, women's health, and personal autonomy. Please seriously consider my opposition to HB 1373.

Thank you for your time,  
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