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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2001-02

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on ... Children and Families (AC-CF)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... CR
- Executive Sessions ... ES
- Public Hearings ... PH

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... Appt (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

(ab = Assembly Bill)

(ar = Assembly Resolution)

(ajr = Assembly Joint Resolution)

(sb = Senate Bill)

(**sr** = Senate Resolution)

(sir = Senate Joint Resolution)

Miscellaneous ... Misc

^{*} Contents organized for archiving by: Stefanie Rose (LRB) (May 2012)

Assembly

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Children and Families

Assembly Bill 450

Relating to: requiring a woman upon whom an abortion is to be performed or induced to be informed at least 24 hours before the abortion is performed or induced that she may anonymously and with immunity from liability relinquish custody of her newborn child to a law enforcement officer, an emergency medical technician, or a hospital staff member when the newborn child is 72 hours old or younger.

By Representatives Kedzie, Krawczyk, Starzyk, Musser, Duff, Gundrum, M. Lehman, Huebsch, Suder, Ladwig, Urban, Owens, D. Meyer, Ainsworth, Pettis, J. Fitzgerald, Townsend, Jeskewitz, Nass, Freese, Sykora, Bies, Albers, Ott, Hahn, Plale, Walker and Gunderson; cosponsored by Senators Lazich, S. Fitzgerald, Baumgart, Cowles, Schultz and Darling.

June 21, 2001 Referred to Committee on Children and Families.

September 13, 2001 PUBLIC HEARING HELD

Present: (7) Representatives Kestell, Lippert, Bies, Grothman, Jeskewitz,

Miller and Sinicki.

Absent: (0) None.

Appearances for

- State Representative Neal Kedzie
- Susan Armacost, WI Right to Life

Appearances against

Paige Shipman, Planned Parenthood of WI

Appearances for Information Only

• Patty Anglin, Acres of Hope, Mason, WI

Registrations for

- State Representative Samantha Starzyk
- Kathy Markeland, Wisconsin Catholic Conference

Registrations against

- Kristine Heiney, Sauk City, WI
- Lauren Rauk, Madison, WI

October 11, 2001 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Present: (6) Representatives Kestell, Bies, Grothman, Jeskewitz, Miller and Sinicki.

Absent: (1) Representative Lippert.

Moved by Representative Miller, seconded by Representative Jeskewitz, that **Assembly Amendment 1** be recommended for introduction.

Ayes: (6) Representatives Kestell, Bies, Grothman, Jeskewitz, Miller and Sinicki.

Noes: (0) None.

Absent: (1) Representative Lippert.

INTRODUCTION RECOMMENDED, Ayes 6, Noes 0, Absent 1

Moved by Representative Jeskewitz, seconded by Representative Bies, that **Assembly Amendment 1** be recommended for adoption.

Ayes: (5) Representatives Kestell, Bies, Grothman, Jeskewitz and Miller.

Noes: (1) Representative Sinicki.

Absent: (1) Representative Lippert.

ADOPTION RECOMMENDED, Ayes 5, Noes 1, Absent 1

Moved by Representative Jeskewitz, seconded by Representative Miller, that **Assembly Bill 450** be recommended for passage as amended.

Ayes: (5) Representatives Kestell, Bies, Grothman, Jeskewitz and Miller.

Noes: (1) Representative Sinicki.

Absent: (1) Representative Lippert.

(Rep. Lippert would have voted aye)

PASSAGE AS AMENDED RECOMMENDED, Ayes 5, Noes 1, Absent 1

Dave Matzen Committee Clerk

Vote Record

Assembly - Committee on Children and Families

Date:	Jeshenty	Seconded by: miller
AB:	,	Clearinghouse Rule: Appointment: Other:
A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Sub Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt:	to A/S Amdt: to A/S Sub Amc to A/S Amdt:	tt: to A/S Sub Amdt:
Be recommended for: Passage Introduction Adoption Rejection		Indefinite Postponement Tabling Concurrence Nonconcurrence Confirmation
Committee Member Rep. Steve Kestell, Chair Rep. MaryAnn Lippert Rep. Garey Bies Rep. Glenn Grothman Rep. Suzanne Jeskewitz Rep. Mark Miller Rep. G. Spencer Coggs Rep. Christine Sinicki		Aye No Absent Not Voting O
	Totals:	

Lippert (AYE)

Motion Carried	Motion Failed	
	transmit	

Vote Record

Assembly - Committee on Children and Families

Date: /0 Moved by:	-11-01 mil	ler	Seconded by:	Jeshen	ig
AB: 450 AJR: AR:	SB: SJR: SR:		Clearinghouse Rule: Appointment: Other:		
A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Sub Amdt: A/S Amdt: A/S Amdt:		to A/S Amdt: to A/S Sub Amd to A/S Amdt:	t:	to A/\$ Sub An	octt:
Be recommended for: Passage Introduction Adoption Rejection			Indefinite Postpo	onement	
Committee Men Rep. Steve Keste Rep. MaryAnn Li Rep. Garey Bies Rep. Glenn Grot Rep. Suzanne Je Rep. Mark Miller Rep. G. Spencer Rep. Christine Sir	ell, Chair ppert hman skewitz Coggs		Aye No	Absent	Not Voting
		Totals:			***************************************

hippert (a)E)

Motion Carried	Motion Failed

Vote Record

Assembly - Committee on Children and Families

Date:	Teshung	Seconded by:	Bies	
AB: 450 SB: AJR: SJR: AR: SR:		Clearinghouse Rule: Appointment: Other:		
A/S Amdt:	to A/S Amdt: to A/S Sub Amc to A/S Amdt:	#t:	to A/S Sub An	nott.
Be recommended for: Passage Introduction Adoption Rejection		Indefinite Postpone Tabling Concurrence Nonconcurrence Confirmation		
Committee Member Rep. Steve Kestell, Chair Rep. MaryAnn Lippert Rep. Garey Bies Rep. Glenn Grothman Rep. Suzanne Jeskewitz Rep. Mark Miller Rep. G. Spencer Coggs Rep. Christine Sinicki		Aye No	Absent \textstyle \te	Not Voting
	Totals: -			

Lippert (AYE)

Motion Carried Motion Failed



State Representative

Neal J. Kedzie

43rd Assembly District

June 25, 2001

Representative Steve Kestell, Chairman Assembly Committee on Children and Families Room 17 West, State Capitol HAND-DELIVER

Dear Chairman Kestell,

I am writing to ask you to schedule Assembly Bill 450 for a public hearing during the Assembly Children and Families Committee's next public meeting. The bill was referred to Children and Families on June 21, 2001.

Assembly Bill 450 relates to requiring a woman upon whom an abortion is to be performed or induced to be informed at least 24 hours before the abortion is performed or induced that she may anonymously and with immunity from liability relinquish custody of her newborn child to a law enforcement officer, an emergency medical technician, or a hospital staff member when the newborn child is 72 hours old or younger.

I introduced the Assembly Bill 450 in order to provide an expedient way to inform a pregnant mother about life-affirming alternatives to an abortion she may be considering. I believe the proposal encourages a woman who may be seeking an abortion to consider legally relinquishing custody of a newborn child rather than seeking an abortion.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. My staff and I are available to answer any questions you may have about Assembly Bill 450.

Sincerely.

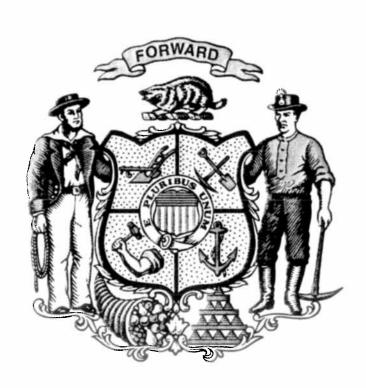
Neal J. Kedzie

State Representative

43rd Assembly District

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NJK: kv





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Legal Counsel

Sheila Reynolds

Testimony in Opposition to AB 450 Submitted to the Committee on Children and Families September 12, 2001

I appreciate the opportunity to speak to the committee today. As you may know, in 31 clinics across the state, Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin serves 65,000 patients by providing breast and cervical cancer screening, STI testing and treatment, contraception services, pregnancy counseling, and abstinence-based, age-appropriate sexuality education. Our mission is to provide women and men with the education and direct clinic services to enable them to make responsible choices, have a healthy future and, when they are ready, to have healthy wanted children.

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin helped to pass the "Safe Haven for Newborns" law (Act 2, 2001) that enables women to abandon their infants within 72 hours after giving birth. It is our hope that this legislation will prevent women from using more desperate measures to cope with an unintended pregnancy.

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin would support positive ways to educate at-risk women about this new law or to promote policies that prevent unintended pregnancy. However, AB 450 does neither.

Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin fully supports all-options pregnancy counseling that includes discussion of adoption. It is sound public health policy to provide women with information about adoption services when they face a crisis pregnancy. But it is irresponsible and dangerous for the state to require doctors to encourage infant abandonment when a woman would still have time to arrange an adoption. Abandoned infants will have no medical record and will be categorized as "special needs" adoption cases. Moreover, it is unlikely that a pregnant women who "plans" to abandon her baby would receive adequate prenatal care.

Given the potential danger of state promotion of infant abandonment, we can only assume that the primary purpose of AB 450 is to dissuade women from exercising their legal right to choose. This bill would set a dangerous precedent for future politically-motivated additions to the law.

We encourage you to oppose the bill and instead continue to help in our efforts to reduce unintended pregnancies and promote the health and well-being of Wisconsin families. Thank you.





WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

TO: The Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Children and Families

FROM: Kathy Markeland for Markeland

DATE: September 13, 2001

RE: Support for Assembly Bill 450

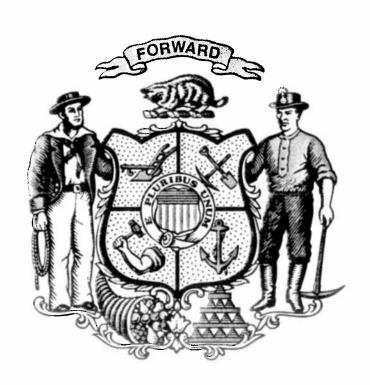
The Wisconsin Catholic Conference supports Assembly Bill 450 which would require that the information provided to a woman seeking an abortion include information regarding the new "safe harbor" law.

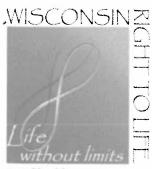
The intent of the 24-hour waiting period is to provide a woman with information and time for reflection to make an informed decision regarding the continuation or termination of her pregnancy. The enactment of the new law regarding newborn abandonment is a fact that may ultimately be relevant to a woman who elects not to pursue the abortion but is still uncertain and frightened about her pregnancy.

We understand the concerns of those that fear the disclosure of this information would potentially deter a woman from seeking appropriate medical and emotional resources should she decide to continue with her pregnancy. Certainly we should do everything we can to ensure that a woman receives the proper medical, spiritual and emotional support she needs no matter what her decision. However, we should remember the context in which this information is being disclosed. If any information relevant to her present situation is sufficient to give her pause regarding her decision to pursue an abortion, then the important issue to focus on is her uncertainty regarding the abortion.

Ultimately we want to serve the lives of both the mother and child. Neither life should be put in the position where their health or welfare is threatened. Should a woman choose to continue her pregnancy she should be provided with the resources she needs to insure that her health and her child's health are protected. Ideally these resources include proper medical care and counseling to help her cope with the pregnancy and to make a responsible decision to either parent or offer her child for adoption. If, however, she decides against the abortion and is, for whatever reason, unable to seek or accept the help offered to her, then knowledge of the "safe harbor" law may avert the compounding of an already tragic situation

A woman should have this information not because we as a society support child abandonment as an "option" any more than we as a society endorse abortion. A woman should have this information because it is factual information relevant to her current condition.





State Affiliate of the National Right to Lage Committee Inc. Washington, DC 1404-1191

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TESTIMONY

of

SUSAN ARMACOST LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR WISCONSIN RIGHT TO LIFE

before the

ASSEMBLY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMITTEE

Assembly Bill 450

September 13, 2001

My name is Susan Armacost. As the Legislative Director for Wisconsin Right to Life, I appear today to express our support for Assembly Bill 450.

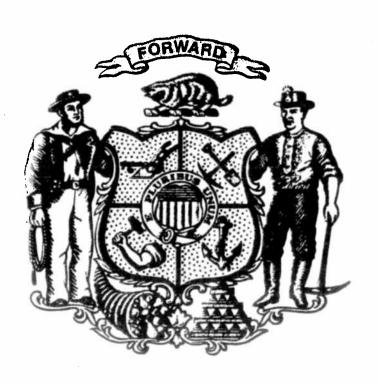
Assembly Bill 450 would meld two current Wisconsin laws, Act 309, also known as the Woman's Right to Know Act with the recently enacted Safe Haven for Newborns law. Wisconsin Right to Life strongly supported the enactment of both of those laws.

The Woman's Right to Know Act insures that every woman who is considering having an abortion receives the full array of information that she needs to make a fully informed decision. Then, the woman is given 24 hours to reflect upon that information before making her final decision.

During the reflection period, some women will decide to carry their children to term and the extensive information that is given to those women under the Woman's Right to Know Act includes numerous public and private agencies and organizations that can assist them whether they keep their babies or choose adoption as an option.

Assembly Bill 450 would add a very important piece of information to the information that is already provided under the Woman's Right to Know Act. That is, women would also be given information regarding the Safe Haven for Newborns law and how that law works. This piece of information could be crucial in the case of a woman who decides to carry her baby to term perhaps with the best of intentions but panics in the end and considers either killing her baby or putting the baby in harm's way through abandonment. If she has knowledge that the Safe Haven for Newborns law will allow her to relinquish her baby within 72 hours without fear of prosecution, there is at least the hope that she will call on that information and choose life for her baby and avoid a life time of guilt for herself.

Wisconsin Right to Life urges you to support AB 450. Thank you.





State Representative

Neal J. Kedzie

43rd Assembly District

September 13, 2001

Representative Steve Kestell, Chairman Assembly Committee on Children and Families Room 17 West, State Capitol HAND-DELIVER

Dear Chairman Kestell.

Thank you for scheduling Assembly Bill 450 for a public hearing in the Assembly Children and Families Committee. The proposal will provide an expedient way to inform a pregnant mother about life-affirming alternatives to an abortion she may be considering.

The Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) estimates \$20,000 in increased costs due to the publication and distribution provisions in Assembly Bill 450. To avoid incurring those costs, I am amenable to the Committee's adoption and recommendation of an amendment that would delay the effective date of the bill until the next regularly scheduled reprinting of the publications DHFS currently uses concerning its existing informed consent notification requirements.

I ask you to consider scheduling the bill for an executive session during the Committee's earliest possible convenience so that it may be considered for passage by the full Assembly during the fall Floor Period.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Neal J. Kedzie

State Representative 43rd Assembly District

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NJK: kv







State Representative

Neal J. Kedzie

43rd Assembly District

October 10, 2001

Representative Mark Miller Room 112 North, State Capitol Hand-Deliver

Dear Representative Miller,

Thank you for expressing an interest in offering an amendment to delay the effective date of Assembly Bill 450, relating to a woman's right to know about the newly-passed "safe harbor" provisions that are part the current "informed consent" requirements.

Because I have not yet seen the amendment, I want to make certain you intend to delay only the effective date for Section 4, relating to the department of health and family services (DHFS) publication requirements, but not Section 5, relating to a physician or other qualified person's obligation to inform a woman about her rights to relinquish a child under Wis. Stat. 48.195.

Originally, the 60-day delayed effective date in Sections 4 and 5 was intended to provide DHFS with time to publish the printed materials before the oral information would be required. I do not wish, however, to delay the oral information requirements until April 1, 2002. Thus, the amendment I am prepared to support would:

- 1. On Page 4, Line 20: delete the words, "60 days after" and substitute "April 2, 2002, or the 61 days after the effective date of this, whichever is later,".
- 2. On Page 4, Line 25: delete the material beginning on that line and ending on Page 5, Line 3.

I requested an amendment incorporating those changes. Please let me know if you have questions or concerns related to the amendment. Again, thank you for offering your insight on this matter.

Sincerely,

Neal J. Kedzie

State Representative

43rd Assembly District

Cc: Assembly Committee on Children and Families members