



AB 260 – Preserving Mifepristone Access and Reproductive Rights

SUMMARY

Attacks on reproductive rights have escalated nationally in recent years, threatening reproductive freedom and abortion care access. AB 260 seeks to safeguard the availability of reproductive healthcare in California by protecting healthcare providers, facilities, and patients who access abortion medication. It upholds abortion care as a fundamental right, as enshrined in the California Constitution by two-thirds of voters.

BACKGROUND

For more than 25 years, scientists have extensively studied the safety of abortion medications, including mifepristone. Decades of research confirm medication abortion is both safe and effective. In 2000, the U.S. Food & Drug Administration approved mifepristone. Today, medication abortion is the least invasive option for abortion care, and now accounts for over two-thirds of all abortions in the United States.

PROBLEM

Access to reproductive healthcare in California remains under threat as federal legal protections face ongoing challenges. The federal government is considering using funding as leverage to restrict states' ability to provide essential healthcare and it has confirmed its intent to reevaluate the approval of abortion medications.

THIS BILL

AB 260 safeguards access to medication abortion in California, ensuring that a person's right to essential health care remains protected. This bill strengthens and expands access to abortion care by: (1) affirming statewide authority for legal use of mifepristone; (2) protecting health care providers, pharmacies, clinics, and hospitals from disciplinary actions or licensing impacts for legally providing mifepristone under state law; (3) enhancing provider safety by removing provider names from abortion medication prescription

labels; (4) requiring health plans maintain coverage for legally available medication abortion; (5) expanding access to reproductive healthcare through telehealth; and (6) repealing outdated and obsolete legal code sections.

California has some of the most robust reproductive healthcare protections in the country, but federal decisions still affect abortion access here. While the right to healthcare is being threatened nationwide, AB 260 takes proactive steps to protect medication abortion in California—to ensure reproductive healthcare remains legal, accessible, and safe for patients, providers, and facilities—as the California Constitution mandates. California must continue to be a stalwart defender of reproductive rights and access to safe, legal abortion care and this bill is part of that defense.

CO-SPONSORS

Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
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Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis
Black Women for Wellness Action Project
California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
Essential Access Health
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TEACH

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