



Impacting Reproductive
Care Worldwide

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Senate Committee on Seniors, Families, Veterans and Military Affairs
201 West Capitol Avenue Room 416
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Chair White and Vice Chair Gannon,

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I am writing to express strong opposition to [SB 778](#) which would curtail the reproductive rights of the residents of Missouri and leave many at potentially life-threatening risk.

ASRM is a multidisciplinary organization of nearly 8,000 professionals dedicated to the advancement of the art, science, and practice of reproductive medicine. Distinguished members of ASRM include obstetricians and gynecologists, urologists, reproductive endocrinologists, embryologists, mental health professionals and others.

ASRM is concerned that SB 778 could have unintended consequences on the treatment of infertility in Missouri. For example, as written, this bill could prevent a physician from using the most modern techniques to test a fertilized egg to avoid potentially fatal genetic or chromosomal disorders.

Additionally, since “fetal heartbeat” is not a medically accurate term, Missouri physicians would be forced to interpret the bill’s meaning on their practice and patients, which could restrict access to critical care for Missourians.

As physicians, we must be able to provide- sometimes immediately- the best course of care for each of our patients. SB 778 would endanger our ability to do so.

For these reasons and others, I strongly urge you to oppose the passage of SB 778.

For more information, feel free to contact me or Sean Tipton, our Chief Advocacy and Policy officer at Stipton@asrm.org or 202-421-5112.



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Sincerely,

Marcelle I. Cedars, MD
President
American Society for Reproductive Medicine