



Impacting Reproductive
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House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor
500 Woodlane Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

3/29/23

Dear Chair Johnson, Vice Chair Miller, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine (ASRM), I am writing to express strong opposition to [SB 463](#) which would curtail the reproductive rights of the residents of Arkansas and leave some facing life-threatening risks.

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.

SB 463 seeks to further restrict the people of Arkansas' access to abortion to include medical abortion. What the bill does not take into account is both the medical necessity and efficacy of the procedure. Evidence-based practice, for which ASRM and major medical groups have all voiced support, shows that medical abortion is safe and cost-effective to the patient and the state up to the first nine weeks of pregnancy. For survivors of trauma, the ability to manage their care in a safe setting is crucial to their emotional well-being. Perhaps most critically, for people of Arkansas experiencing miscarriage, the same pills used in a medication abortion are used in clinical practice to manage a non-viable pregnancy up to 13 weeks, saving the patient additional trauma of a medical procedure to remove the non-viable pregnancy. Criminalizing and banning these medications as proposed in SB 463 would put the women of Arkansas at risk.

For these reasons and others, I strongly urge you to oppose the passage of SB 463.

For more information, feel free to contact me or Sean Tipton, our Chief



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Advocacy and Policy officer at Stipton@asrm.org or 202-421-5112.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Thomas, MD

President

American Society for Reproductive Medicine

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