

Senate Bill 776

Sponsored by Senators DEVLIN, BROWN, Representative ROSENBAUM; Senators AVAKIAN, PROZANSKI, WALKER, Representatives BARKER, BONAMICI, KOTEK, NOLAN, TOMEI (at the request of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Oregon, NARAL Pro-Choice Oregon)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Department of Human Services to collect data and study "alternative-to-abortion organizations" in Oregon and report findings to Legislative Assembly by December 31, 2008.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to study of alternative-to-abortion organizations; and appropriating money.

3 Whereas "alternative-to-abortion organizations," also called "crisis pregnancy centers,"
4 misinform and mislead women to deter or to delay them from having abortions; and

5 Whereas there are 51 alternative-to-abortion organizations or crisis pregnancy centers operating
6 in Oregon; and

7 Whereas some crisis pregnancy centers intentionally choose their names to mislead women into
8 believing that the centers offer a wide range of family planning and abortion care when they do not;
9 and

10 Whereas in order to confuse their clients and capitalize on their patients' confusion, crisis
11 pregnancy centers design their facilities to look like health care facilities and locate the facilities
12 near clinics that offer family planning and abortion care; and

13 Whereas many crisis pregnancy centers not only mislead women about abortion care but also
14 will not provide information about birth control; now, therefore,

15 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

16 **SECTION 1.** (1) **As used in this section:**

17 (a) **"Alternative-to-abortion organization" or "crisis pregnancy center" means an organ-**
18 **ization that provides pregnancy counseling or information to women but does not perform**
19 **abortions or make referrals for abortions.**

20 (b) **"All-options pregnancy counseling" means medically and factually accurate informa-**
21 **tion about adoption, abortion and carrying a pregnancy to term.**

22 (2) **The Department of Human Services shall study and collect data on all aspects of**
23 **alternative-to-abortion organizations and crisis pregnancy centers. The study shall include,**
24 **but is not limited to:**

25 (a) **What state funds, if any, are directly or indirectly allocated to alternative-to-abortion**
26 **organizations in this state and the names and locations of such organizations receiving state**
27 **funding.**

28 (b) **The number of women who access services at alternative-to-abortion organizations.**

29 (c) **The geographic regions in which each woman accessing the services of alternative-**
30 **to-abortion organizations resides.**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (d) Whether alternative-to-abortion organizations hold themselves out to the public as
2 all-options pregnancy counseling programs or agencies.

3 (e) Whether any alternative-to-abortion organization discloses its religious affiliation and
4 informs its clients that it is not a medical facility and that it does not perform abortions.

5 (f) The number of state-certified medical professionals on staff at alternative-to-abortion
6 organizations.

7 (g) What services are provided by alternative-to-abortion organizations.

8 (h) Whether alternative-to-abortion organizations are providing ultrasound examinations
9 and, if so, how they disclose the results of those examinations to patients.

10 (i) If alternative-to-abortion organizations are operating as medical facilities, how they
11 handle medical records, and whether the records are in compliance with state requirements
12 governing medical privacy.

13 (j) Whether intentionally misleading or medically and factually inaccurate information is
14 given to clients at alternative-to-abortion organizations, including misinformation about the
15 alleged links between abortions and breast cancer, the effects of abortion on future fertility
16 and the effects of abortion on mental health.

17 (3) The department shall establish and post on the department's website a toll-free
18 number, complaint form and details of a process established by the department to track and
19 investigate complaints about alternative-to-abortion organizations.

20 SECTION 2. The Department of Human Services shall report the results of the study
21 required by section 1 of this 2007 Act to the Legislative Assembly in the manner required
22 by ORS 192.245 by December 31, 2008.

23 SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2007 Act is repealed on the date of the convening of the next
24 regular biennial legislative session.

25 SECTION 4. There is appropriated to the Department of Human Services, for the
26 biennium beginning July 1, 2007, out of the General Fund, the sum of \$_____ for the pur-
27 pose of carrying out the provisions of sections 1 and 2 of this 2007 Act.

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