

March 31, 2003

S 571. ABORTION-WOMAN'S RIGHT TO KNOW. TO REQUIRE A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR WAITING PERIOD AND THE INFORMED CONSENT OF A PREGNANT WOMAN BEFORE AN ABORTION MAY BE PERFORMED.

Adds new article 1H in chapter 90 entitled "Woman's Right To Know Act." Makes it unlawful for a physician to perform an abortion without obtaining the woman's informed consent. Requires that before performing an abortion, the following conditions must be met: (1) the physician who is to perform the abortion, the referring physician or a qualified person must orally inform the woman at least 24 hours in advance of the procedure of all items listed in the act, (2) that woman certifies that she has received all required information and reviewed all written materials required by act to be published by the Dep't of Health and Human Services, and (3) the woman is not required to pay for the abortion procedure until the 24-hour waiting period has expired. Provides that abortion may be performed in cases of medical emergency when physician indicates and supports in written document that abortion is necessary to avoid death or serious risk to life of mother. Provides for a civil cause of action by a woman against any person who performs an abortion in violation of the act. Requires that the Dep't use available funds to implement act. Effective Dec. 1, 2003.

Intro. by Allran, Foxx.

Ref. to Judiciary I	GS 90
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