GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

House Bill 453, "AN ACT TO PROTECT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION OF HUMAN LIFE."

This bill gives the government control over what happens and what is said in the exam room between a woman and her doctor at a time she faces one of the most difficult decisions of her life. This bill is unconstitutional and it damages the doctor-patient relationship with an unprecedented government intrusion.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

Roy Cooper
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina House of Representatives on this the 25 day of June 2021, at 1:40pm for reconsideration by that body.
A qualified physician who procures or causes a miscarriage or abortion after the twentieth week of a woman's pregnancy shall record the findings and analysis on which the qualified physician based the determination that there existed a medical emergency as defined by G.S. 90-21.81(5) and shall provide that information to the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to G.S. 14-45.1(c). Materials generated by the physician or provided by the physician to the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to this section shall not be public records under G.S. 132-1.

The information provided under this subsection shall be for statistical purposes only, and the confidentiality of the patient and the physician shall be protected. It is the duty of the qualified physician to submit information to the Department of Health and Human Services that omits identifying information of the patient and complies with Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective September 1, 2021, and applies to all abortions performed on or after that date.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 14th day of June, 2021.

Phil Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

Harry Warren
Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Roy Cooper
Governor

Approved __________.m. this ___________ day of ______________, 2021