

Dear Legislator,

The Illinois Supreme Court recently implemented an important state law, the Parental Notice of Abortion Act ("Act"), which requires abortion facilities to notify a parent or legal guardian before performing an abortion on her or his minor daughter. The Act, which is poised to take effect, also has balanced exceptions to the parental notice requirement situations involving family abuse, and the like.

Representative John Fritchey seeks to repeal the Act with HB 317. He claims his bill will protect minor girls by providing for sufficient parental notice, but his claims are false:

- **HB 317 would not require parental notification where a minor girl herself waives parental notice after a routine counseling session in an abortion facility.** (Section 25)
- **HB 317 would not require parental notification where the abortion facility provides substitute notification to an adult male step-sibling or adult male uncle – even if that adult male in fact caused the minor girl's pregnancy.** (Sections 10 and 15)
- **HB 317 would not require parental notification where the abortion facility provides substitute notification to any individual accredited by a religious body, even if that individual does not have any prior relationship with the minor girl or her family.** (Sections 10 and 15)
- **HB 317 would violate a minor girl's privacy rights by allowing abortion facilities to share a minor's personal medical information with an unrelated individual who is accredited by a religious body, regardless of whether this individual has any prior relationship with the minor girl or her family.** (Section 15)

According to the National Center for Health Statistics and other organizations, most teen pregnancies are fathered by men older than 20. **The absence of a genuine parental notification requirement allows sexual predators to pressure young victims into abortions without the knowledge of a parent or guardian, erasing the evidence of their crimes.**

Genuine laws of parental notification for abortion are currently implemented in 34 states and enjoy an approval rating upwards of 78%, according to a national poll conducted by Opinion Dynamics Corporation. (National telephone poll of 900 registered voters, Margin of error: +/- 3%. Question was: "Do you think a female under 18 should be required by state law to notify at least one parent or guardian before having an abortion?")

**As mothers and citizens, we are concerned about the safety and welfare of minor girls in Illinois. Whether male sex offenders and abortion providers like it or not, Illinois parents have a right to be notified before their minor children undergo abortions. Illinois already has a law that protects our minor girls in this way. We do not need to waste taxpayer money to establish an inferior regime under HB 317.**

**Please don't place special interest groups before the welfare of our daughters.  
Please vote "NO" on HB 317.**

Sincerely,

Yvonne Florczak-Seeman  
Time to Speak, on behalf of Illinois Mothers  
866-TIME-2-SPEAK

Paid for by Illinois Citizens for Ethics.