HOUSE BILL 575

Short Title:	Require Info. About Abortion Pill Reversal.	(Public)
Sponsors:	Representatives McElraft, Hurley, R. Turner, and Presnell (Primary Sponsors). *For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*	
Referred to:	Health, if favorable, Judiciary I	

April 6, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT DIRECTING THAT PHYSICIANS WHO PERFORM DRUG-INDUCED ABORTIONS OFFER PATIENTS CERTAIN WRITTEN INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF REVERSING THE EFFECTS OF A DRUG-INDUCED ABORTION AFTER THE FIRST DOSE OF MEDICATION IS ADMINISTERED AND REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO DISTRIBUTE CERTAIN WRITTEN MATERIALS TO EVERY PHYSICIAN WHO PERFORMS DRUG-INDUCED ABORTIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 90-21.82 reads as rewritten:

"**§ 90-21.82. Informed consent to abortion.**

No abortion shall be performed upon a woman in this State without her voluntary and informed consent. Except in the case of a medical emergency, consent to an abortion is voluntary and informed only if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

…

(2a) Any physician who prescribes, dispenses, or otherwise provides any drug or chemical for the purpose of inducing an abortion shall, immediately after administering the first drug or chemical for the purpose of inducing an abortion, offer the patient the written information made available by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to subdivision (a)(3) of G.S. 90-21.83.

(3) The woman ~~certifies~~ shall certify, in writing, before the abortion, that the information described in subdivisions (1) and (2) of this section has been furnished to her and that she has been informed of her opportunity to review the information referred to in sub-subdivision (2)e. of this ~~section.~~section and, in the case of a drug-induced abortion, shall certify, in writing, immediately after the administration of the first drug or chemical, that the information described in subdivision (a)(3) of G.S. 90-21.83 has been furnished to her and that she has the opportunity to review the information referred to in sub-subdivision (2)e. of this section. The original of this certification shall be maintained in the woman's medical records, and a copy shall be given to her.

…."

SECTION 2. G.S. 90-21.83 reads as rewritten:

"**§ 90-21.83. Printed information required.**

(a) ~~Within 90 days after this Article becomes effective, the~~The Department shall publish in English and in each language that is the primary language of at least two percent (2%) of the State's population and shall cause to be available on the State Web site established under G.S. 90-21.84, the following printed materials in a manner that ensures that the information is comprehensible to a person of ordinary intelligence:

…

(3) Materials designed to inform the woman about the possibility of reversing a drug-induced abortion. The materials shall be printed in at least 12-point, bold legible type with the following statement concerning drug-induced abortions: "This information about your drug-induced abortion is provided by the State of North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. It may be possible to discontinue a drug-induced abortion by not taking the second drug (Misopristol) and to reverse the process by administration of progesterone. It is recommended that you contact a knowledgeable health care provider regarding the abortion pill reversal process or call the Abortion Pill Reversal Hotline at 877-558-0333 as soon as possible."

(b) ~~The~~ Except as otherwise provided, the materials referred to in subsection (a) of this section shall be printed in a typeface large enough to be clearly legible. The Web site provided for in G.S. 90-21.84 shall be maintained at a minimum resolution of 70 DPI (dots per inch). All pictures appearing on the Web site shall be a minimum of 200x300 pixels. All letters on the Web site shall be a minimum of 12-point font. All information and pictures shall be accessible with an industry-standard browser requiring no additional plug-ins.

(c) The Department shall make the materials required under this section ~~shall be~~ available at no cost from the Department upon request and in appropriate numbers to any physician, person, health facility, hospital, or qualified professional.

…

(e) The Department shall cause to be available on the homepage of the State Web site for the Woman's Right to Know Act the information described in subdivision (a)(3) of this section."

SECTION 3.(a) Within 90 days after this section becomes effective, the Department of Health and Human Services shall do both of the following:

(1) Publish on the homepage of the State Web site for the Woman's Right to Know Act the information described in G.S. 90-21.83(a)(3), as amended by this act.

(2) Make available at no cost from the Department, upon request, and in appropriate numbers to any physician the printed materials described in subdivision (a)(3) of G.S. 90-21.83, as amended by this act.

SECTION 3.(b) This section is effective when it becomes law.

SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or its application is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end, the provisions of this act are severable.

SECTION 5. Except as otherwise provided, this act becomes effective October 1, 2017.