

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10008-MG-20

Short Title: Woman's Right to Know Addition/Ashley's Law. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Pittman.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT DIRECTING THAT CERTAIN INFORMATION BE PROVIDED TO WOMEN  
3 CONSIDERING A MEDICAL ABORTION IN ORDER TO SATISFY INFORMED  
4 CONSENT REQUIREMENTS; AND REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
5 AND HUMAN SERVICES TO MAKE THAT INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON ITS  
6 INTERNET WEB SITE.

7 Whereas, medical abortion utilizing mifepristone has been available in the United  
8 States since 2000; and

9 Whereas, in 2014, thirty-one percent (31%) of non-hospital induced abortions were  
10 medical abortions; and

11 Whereas, some women who take mifepristone, a progesterone receptor antagonist, in  
12 order to terminate their pregnancies, change their minds and desire to stop the medical abortion  
13 process; and

14 Whereas, Issues in Law & Medicine, Volume 33, Number 1, 2018, details an  
15 observational case series of 754 patients who attempted to reverse the medical abortion process  
16 after taking mifepristone but before taking the second drug in the protocol, misoprostol; and

17 Whereas, that observational case series led to the conclusion that intramuscular  
18 progesterone and high-dose oral progesterone were the most effective in reversing the medical  
19 abortion process for the women participating in the observational case series, with reversal rates  
20 of sixty-four percent (64%) and sixty-eight percent (68%), respectively; and

21 Whereas, there was no apparent increased risk of birth defects due to the use of  
22 progesterone to reverse the effects of mifepristone; Now, therefore:

23 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

24 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 90-21.82 is amended by adding a new subdivision to read:

25 "(2a) In addition to the information required by subdivision (2) of this section, the  
26 following information must be provided to a woman before a medical  
27 abortion:

28 a. Immediately prior to administering the drug mifepristone, the  
29 physician or qualified health professional shall inform the woman that  
30 (i) it is still possible to discontinue a medical abortion by not taking  
31 the prescribed misoprostol and taking progesterone to reverse the  
32 effects of the mifepristone and (ii) information on how, where, and  
33 from whom women can obtain assistance in discontinuing a medical  
34 abortion is available on the Department of Health and Human Services'  
35 Internet Web site.



1                            b.     Immediately prior to administering the drug misoprostol, the physician  
2    or qualified professional shall provide medical proof to the woman that  
3    fetal death has occurred."

4                    **SECTION 2.** G.S. 90-21.84 reads as rewritten:

5    **"§ 90-21.84. Internet Web site.**

6            The Department shall develop and maintain a stable Internet Web site to provide the  
7    information described ~~under~~ in sub-subdivision a. of subdivision (2a) of G.S. 90-21.82 and  
8    G.S. 90-21.83. No information regarding who accesses the Web site shall be collected or  
9    maintained. The Department shall monitor the Web site on a regular basis to prevent and correct  
10   tampering."

11           **SECTION 3.** On or before July 1, 2019, the Department of Health and Human  
12   Services shall update its Internet Web site to provide information on how, where, and from whom  
13   women can obtain assistance in discontinuing the medical abortion process, as required by  
14   G.S. 90-21.84, as amended by this act.

15           **SECTION 4.** Section 3 of this act is effective when it becomes law. The remainder  
16   of this act becomes effective October 1, 2019.