



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MICHIGAN

EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

July 9, 2012

Senator Rick Jones
Chair of Senate Judiciary Committee
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Senator Jones:

The League of Women Voters of Michigan opposes HB 5711 as passed by the Michigan House of Representatives and assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee. This bill creates unnecessary restrictions for a woman to obtain a legal abortion as upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court. These restrictions will not protect the health or well-being of Michigan's women, but the bill will add more restrictions for women to obtain a safe medical procedure.

Since 1983, the League of Women Voters has believed that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right to privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. HB 5711 violates that position and may limit access to safe legal abortions in Michigan with the new requirements for free-standing surgical facilities, fetal deaths and coercive abortions.

While this is a difficult issue and we know people have a right to disagree, the League does not support others imposing their position on choice on others.

Sincerely,

Susan Smith

Susan Smith
President