

One Hundred Third Legislature - Second Session - 2014

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1032

Chairman: Senator Brad Ashford

Committee: Judiciary

Date of Hearing: February 27, 2014

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Current Nebraska informed consent laws provide crucial information concerning the abortion procedure, its risks, alternatives, and long-term consequences, as well as the physical development of the unborn child. The intent of LB 1032 is to provide another important piece of information to a woman seeking an abortion – specifically, that a woman seeking an abortion cannot be coerced or forced into having an abortion against her will; and the decision is exclusive to the woman and an abortion can not be performed without her voluntary consent; and she is entitled to legal protections if she feels threatened.

Research confirms that a substantial number of women feel forced by boyfriends, spouses, parents and others to have an abortion against their will. Women are coerced through threats of physical violence, withdrawal of financial support, loss of housing, and violation of employment contracts or other legal agreements. Furthermore, numerous studies have confirmed that women considering an abortion are substantially more likely to be suffering domestic violence.

The required signage outlined in the bill would provide women notification of their rights and must be posted conspicuously in facilities that perform abortions. A \$10,000 fine for each day the sign is not posted would be imposed on those facilities.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Bill Kintner