

House File 297 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 297

BY HEARTSILL, WINDSCHITL,
BAXTER, SHEETS, HOLT,
FISHER, KERR, HUSEMAN,
WILLS, WHEELER, KOESTER,
WATTS, ROGERS, SALMON,
HAGER, DOLECHECK, GASSMAN,
LANDON, CARLIN, MOORE,
PETTENGILL, HOLZ, and SIECK

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the protection of life beginning at
2 conception, and including effective date provisions.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 1.19 Rights and protections
2 beginning at conception — construction.

3 1. The sovereign state of Iowa recognizes that life is
4 valued and protected from the moment of conception, and
5 each life, from that moment, is accorded the same rights and
6 protections guaranteed to all persons by the Constitution of
7 the United States, the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and
8 the laws of this state.

9 2. This section shall not be construed to create or
10 recognize a right to an abortion, to impose civil or criminal
11 liability on a woman upon whom an abortion is performed, or to
12 prohibit the use of any means of contraception.

13 3. For the purposes of this section:

14 a. "*Abortifacient*" means a method of inhibiting the
15 development of a human pregnancy at any stage following
16 conception.

17 b. "*Abortion*" means as defined in section 146.1.

18 c. "*Conception*" means the process of combining the male
19 gamete, or sperm, with the female gamete, or ovum, resulting
20 in a fertilized ovum or zygote.

21 d. "*Contraception*" means a method of inhibiting the
22 development of a human pregnancy at any stage prior to
23 conception. "*Contraception*" does not include an abortifacient.

24 Sec. 2. APPELLATE JURISDICTION. The Iowa supreme court
25 shall not have appellate jurisdiction over the provisions of
26 this Act.

27 Sec. 3. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of this
28 Act or its application to any person or circumstance is held
29 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
30 application of this Act which can be given effect without
31 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the
32 provisions of this Act are severable.

33 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of
34 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

35

EXPLANATION

1 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
2 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

3 This bill relates to the protection of life beginning at
4 conception.

5 The bill provides that the sovereign state of Iowa
6 recognizes that life is valued and protected from the moment
7 of conception and each life is accorded the same rights and
8 protections guaranteed to all persons by the constitutions of
9 the state of Iowa and the United States, and by the laws of the
10 state.

11 The bill provides that notwithstanding any other law to
12 the contrary, the bill is not to be construed to create or
13 recognize a right to an abortion; to impose civil or criminal
14 liability on a woman upon whom an abortion is performed;
15 or to prohibit the use of any means of contraception. The
16 bill defines "abortifacient", "abortion", "conception", and
17 "contraception" for the purposes of the bill.