

**House File 267 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 267

BY WHEELER

**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

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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.