

STATE OF NEW YORK

1748

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IN ASSEMBLY

January 12, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. GLICK, GOTTFRIED, LUPARDO, MAYER, HEASTIE, PEOPLES-STOKES, JAFFEE, TITUS, SIMOTAS, ROSENTHAL, O'DONNELL, CAHILL, SOLAGES, JENNE, MORELLE, FARRELL, ABINANTI, ARROYO, BARRETT, BARRON, BICHOTTE, BLAKE, BRAUNSTEIN, BRINDISI, BRONSON, BUCHWALD, CARROLL, COOK, CYMBROWITZ, DE LA ROSA, DenDEKKER, DILAN, DINOWITZ, D'URSO, ENGLEBRIGHT, FAHY, GALEF, GANTT, HARRIS, HEVESI, HOOPER, HUNTER, HYNDMAN, JEAN-PIERRE, JONES, KAVANAGH, KIM, LAVINE, LIFTON, MAGNARELLI, MOSLEY, MOYA, NOLAN, OTIS, PAULIN, PERRY, PHEFFER AMATO, PICHARDO, PRETLOW, QUART, RODRIGUEZ, ROZIC, SEAWRIGHT, SEPULVEDA, SIMON, SKARTADOS, SKOUFIS, STECK, STIRPE, THIELE, TITONE, WALLACE, WEINSTEIN, WEPRIN, WILLIAMS, WOERNER, WRIGHT -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to enacting the reproductive health act and revising existing provisions of law regarding abortion; to amend the penal law, the criminal procedure law, the county law and the judiciary law, in relation to abortion; to repeal certain provisions of the public health law relating to abortion; to repeal certain provisions of the education law relating to the sale of contraceptives; and to repeal certain provisions of the penal law relating to abortion

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Legislative intent. The legislature finds that comprehen-
2 sive reproductive health care, including contraception and abortion, is
3 a fundamental component of a woman's health, privacy and equality. The
4 New York Constitution and United States Constitution protect a woman's
5 fundamental right to access safe, legal abortion, courts have repeatedly
6 reaffirmed this right and further emphasized that states may not place
7 undue burdens on women seeking to access such right.
8 Moreover, the legislature finds, as with other medical procedures, the
9 safety of abortion is furthered by evidence-based practices developed

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 and supported by medical professionals; any regulation of medical care
 2 must have a legitimate purpose. Abortion is one of the safest medical
 3 procedures performed in the United States; the goal of medical regu-
 4 lation should be to improve the quality and availability of health care
 5 services.

6 Furthermore, the legislature declares that it is the public policy of
 7 New York State that every individual possesses a fundamental right of
 8 privacy and equality with respect to their personal reproductive deci-
 9 sions and should be able to safely effectuate those decisions, including
 10 by seeking and obtaining abortion care, free from discrimination in the
 11 provision of health care.

12 Therefore, it is the intent of the legislature to prevent the enforce-
 13 ment of laws or regulations that are not in furtherance of a legitimate
 14 state interest in protecting a woman's health that burden abortion
 15 access.

16 § 2. The public health law is amended by adding a new article 25-A to
 17 read as follows:

18 ARTICLE 25-A

19 REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ACT

20 Section 2599-aa. Abortion.

21 § 2599-aa. Abortion. 1. A health care practitioner licensed, certi-
 22 fied, or authorized under title eight of the education law, acting with-
 23 in his or her lawful scope of practice, may perform an abortion when,
 24 according to the practitioner's reasonable and good faith professional
 25 judgment based on the facts of the patient's case: the patient is within
 26 twenty-four weeks from the commencement of pregnancy, or there is an
 27 absence of fetal viability, or the abortion is necessary to protect the
 28 patient's life or health.

29 2. This article shall be construed and applied consistent with and
 30 subject to applicable laws and applicable and authorized regulations
 31 governing health care procedures.

32 § 3. Section 4164 of the public health law is REPEALED.

33 § 4. Subdivision 8 of section 6811 of the education law is REPEALED.

34 § 5. Sections 125.40, 125.45, 125.50, 125.55 and 125.60 of the penal
 35 law are REPEALED, and the article heading of article 125 of the penal
 36 law is amended to read as follows:

37 HOMICIDE[~~,-ABORTION~~] AND RELATED OFFENSES

38 § 6. Section 125.00 of the penal law is amended to read as follows:

39 § 125.00 Homicide defined.

40 Homicide means conduct which causes the death of a person [~~or an~~
 41 ~~unborn child with which a female has been pregnant for more than twen-~~
 42 ~~ty-four weeks] under circumstances constituting murder, manslaughter in
 43 the first degree, manslaughter in the second degree, or criminally
 44 negligent homicide[~~,-abortion in the first degree or self-abortion in~~
 45 ~~the first degree].~~~~

46 § 7. The section heading, opening paragraph and subdivision 1 of
 47 section 125.05 of the penal law are amended to read as follows:

48 Homicide[~~,-abortion~~] and related offenses; [~~definitions of terms~~
 49 definition.

50 The following [~~definitions are~~] definition is applicable to this arti-
 51 cle:

52 [~~1-~~] "Person," when referring to the victim of a homicide, means a
 53 human being who has been born and is alive.

54 § 7-a. Subdivisions 2 and 3 of section 125.05 of the penal law are
 55 REPEALED.

56 § 8. Subdivision 2 of section 125.15 of the penal law is REPEALED.

1 § 9. Subdivision 3 of section 125.20 of the penal law is REPEALED.

2 § 10. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 8 of section 700.05 of the criminal
3 procedure law, as amended by chapter 368 of the laws of 2015, is amended
4 to read as follows:

5 (b) Any of the following felonies: assault in the second degree as
6 defined in section 120.05 of the penal law, assault in the first degree
7 as defined in section 120.10 of the penal law, reckless endangerment in
8 the first degree as defined in section 120.25 of the penal law, promot-
9 ing a suicide attempt as defined in section 120.30 of the penal law,
10 strangulation in the second degree as defined in section 121.12 of the
11 penal law, strangulation in the first degree as defined in section
12 121.13 of the penal law, criminally negligent homicide as defined in
13 section 125.10 of the penal law, manslaughter in the second degree as
14 defined in section 125.15 of the penal law, manslaughter in the first
15 degree as defined in section 125.20 of the penal law, murder in the
16 second degree as defined in section 125.25 of the penal law, murder in
17 the first degree as defined in section 125.27 of the penal law,
18 ~~[abortion in the second degree as defined in section 125.40 of the penal~~
19 ~~law, abortion in the first degree as defined in section 125.45 of the~~
20 ~~penal law,~~] rape in the third degree as defined in section 130.25 of the
21 penal law, rape in the second degree as defined in section 130.30 of the
22 penal law, rape in the first degree as defined in section 130.35 of the
23 penal law, criminal sexual act in the third degree as defined in section
24 130.40 of the penal law, criminal sexual act in the second degree as
25 defined in section 130.45 of the penal law, criminal sexual act in the
26 first degree as defined in section 130.50 of the penal law, sexual abuse
27 in the first degree as defined in section 130.65 of the penal law,
28 unlawful imprisonment in the first degree as defined in section 135.10
29 of the penal law, kidnapping in the second degree as defined in section
30 135.20 of the penal law, kidnapping in the first degree as defined in
31 section 135.25 of the penal law, labor trafficking as defined in section
32 135.35 of the penal law, aggravated labor trafficking as defined in
33 section 135.37 of the penal law, custodial interference in the first
34 degree as defined in section 135.50 of the penal law, coercion in the
35 first degree as defined in section 135.65 of the penal law, criminal
36 trespass in the first degree as defined in section 140.17 of the penal
37 law, burglary in the third degree as defined in section 140.20 of the
38 penal law, burglary in the second degree as defined in section 140.25 of
39 the penal law, burglary in the first degree as defined in section 140.30
40 of the penal law, criminal mischief in the third degree as defined in
41 section 145.05 of the penal law, criminal mischief in the second degree
42 as defined in section 145.10 of the penal law, criminal mischief in the
43 first degree as defined in section 145.12 of the penal law, criminal
44 tampering in the first degree as defined in section 145.20 of the penal
45 law, arson in the fourth degree as defined in section 150.05 of the
46 penal law, arson in the third degree as defined in section 150.10 of the
47 penal law, arson in the second degree as defined in section 150.15 of
48 the penal law, arson in the first degree as defined in section 150.20 of
49 the penal law, grand larceny in the fourth degree as defined in section
50 155.30 of the penal law, grand larceny in the third degree as defined in
51 section 155.35 of the penal law, grand larceny in the second degree as
52 defined in section 155.40 of the penal law, grand larceny in the first
53 degree as defined in section 155.42 of the penal law, health care fraud
54 in the fourth degree as defined in section 177.10 of the penal law,
55 health care fraud in the third degree as defined in section 177.15 of
56 the penal law, health care fraud in the second degree as defined in

1 section 177.20 of the penal law, health care fraud in the first degree
2 as defined in section 177.25 of the penal law, robbery in the third
3 degree as defined in section 160.05 of the penal law, robbery in the
4 second degree as defined in section 160.10 of the penal law, robbery in
5 the first degree as defined in section 160.15 of the penal law, unlawful
6 use of secret scientific material as defined in section 165.07 of the
7 penal law, criminal possession of stolen property in the fourth degree
8 as defined in section 165.45 of the penal law, criminal possession of
9 stolen property in the third degree as defined in section 165.50 of the
10 penal law, criminal possession of stolen property in the second degree
11 as defined by section 165.52 of the penal law, criminal possession of
12 stolen property in the first degree as defined by section 165.54 of the
13 penal law, trademark counterfeiting in the second degree as defined in
14 section 165.72 of the penal law, trademark counterfeiting in the first
15 degree as defined in section 165.73 of the penal law, forgery in the
16 second degree as defined in section 170.10 of the penal law, forgery in
17 the first degree as defined in section 170.15 of the penal law, criminal
18 possession of a forged instrument in the second degree as defined in
19 section 170.25 of the penal law, criminal possession of a forged instru-
20 ment in the first degree as defined in section 170.30 of the penal law,
21 criminal possession of forgery devices as defined in section 170.40 of
22 the penal law, falsifying business records in the first degree as
23 defined in section 175.10 of the penal law, tampering with public
24 records in the first degree as defined in section 175.25 of the penal
25 law, offering a false instrument for filing in the first degree as
26 defined in section 175.35 of the penal law, issuing a false certificate
27 as defined in section 175.40 of the penal law, criminal diversion of
28 prescription medications and prescriptions in the second degree as
29 defined in section 178.20 of the penal law, criminal diversion of
30 prescription medications and prescriptions in the first degree as
31 defined in section 178.25 of the penal law, residential mortgage fraud
32 in the fourth degree as defined in section 187.10 of the penal law,
33 residential mortgage fraud in the third degree as defined in section
34 187.15 of the penal law, residential mortgage fraud in the second degree
35 as defined in section 187.20 of the penal law, residential mortgage
36 fraud in the first degree as defined in section 187.25 of the penal law,
37 escape in the second degree as defined in section 205.10 of the penal
38 law, escape in the first degree as defined in section 205.15 of the
39 penal law, absconding from temporary release in the first degree as
40 defined in section 205.17 of the penal law, promoting prison contraband
41 in the first degree as defined in section 205.25 of the penal law,
42 hindering prosecution in the second degree as defined in section 205.60
43 of the penal law, hindering prosecution in the first degree as defined
44 in section 205.65 of the penal law, sex trafficking as defined in
45 section 230.34 of the penal law, criminal possession of a weapon in the
46 third degree as defined in subdivisions two, three and five of section
47 265.02 of the penal law, criminal possession of a weapon in the second
48 degree as defined in section 265.03 of the penal law, criminal
49 possession of a weapon in the first degree as defined in section 265.04
50 of the penal law, manufacture, transport, disposition and defacement of
51 weapons and dangerous instruments and appliances defined as felonies in
52 subdivisions one, two, and three of section 265.10 of the penal law,
53 sections 265.11, 265.12 and 265.13 of the penal law, or prohibited use
54 of weapons as defined in subdivision two of section 265.35 of the penal
55 law, relating to firearms and other dangerous weapons, or failure to

1 disclose the origin of a recording in the first degree as defined in
2 section 275.40 of the penal law;

3 § 11. Subdivision 1 of section 673 of the county law, as added by
4 chapter 545 of the laws of 1965, is amended to read as follows:

5 1. A coroner or medical examiner has jurisdiction and authority to
6 investigate the death of every person dying within his county, or whose
7 body is found within the county, which is or appears to be:

8 (a) A violent death, whether by criminal violence, suicide or casual-
9 ty;

10 (b) A death caused by unlawful act or criminal neglect;

11 (c) A death occurring in a suspicious, unusual or unexplained manner;

12 (d) [~~A death caused by suspected criminal abortion,~~

13 ~~(e)~~] A death while unattended by a physician, so far as can be discov-
14 ered, or where no physician able to certify the cause of death as
15 provided in the public health law and in form as prescribed by the
16 commissioner of health can be found;

17 [~~(f)~~] (e) A death of a person confined in a public institution other
18 than a hospital, infirmary or nursing home.

19 § 12. Section 4 of the judiciary law, as amended by chapter 264 of the
20 laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

21 § 4. Sittings of courts to be public. The sittings of every court
22 within this state shall be public, and every citizen may freely attend
23 the same, except that in all proceedings and trials in cases for
24 divorce, seduction, [~~abortion,~~ rape, assault with intent to commit
25 rape, criminal sexual act, bastardy or filiation, the court may, in its
26 discretion, exclude therefrom all persons who are not directly inter-
27 ested therein, excepting jurors, witnesses, and officers of the court.

28 § 13. This act shall take effect immediately.