



new york state **RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE, INC.**

COMMITTEE

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Oppose Requiring SUNY Schools to Offer Abortifacients in Student Health Centers (A3322 Epstein).

New York State Right to Life strongly opposes legislation requiring SUNY schools to offer abortion-inducing drugs in their student health centers (A3322 Epstein). At a time when life, especially unborn life, continues to be devalued in society, and when pro-abortion extremists grow ever more radical in their demands, more state money going to abortion procedures is the last thing New York needs.

- A3322 was introduced by New York Assemblyman Harvey Epstein. It demands that a “public college student health center abortion by medication fund” be created to pay for abortifacients in all SUNY student health centers. It was referred to the Higher Education Committee on Jan. 22, 2021.
- This legislation poses a grave risk both to unborn babies and to college students. It enables a mechanism whereby college students can easily be encouraged to kill their own children without fully realizing the implications of their actions. Too often, young women are told that abortion is simply a medical procedure removing an unwanted blob of tissue, when in reality it is the taking of an innocent human life that causes often devastating emotional, and sometimes even physical, ramifications. This promotion of abortifacients makes this deception all the easier to maintain.
- This legislation is also deadly for conscience rights as there is no conscience clause in the legislation protecting the rights of pro-life student health center workers who find the taking of innocent human life morally objectionable. This bill could have the chilling effect of discouraging people who value life in all its stages from working in student health centers. If this happens, these health centers, and especially the students who go to them, will be worse off.
- Further, the Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act, passed by both of New York’s legislative chambers and signed into law by the governor, mandates that health insurance plans provide coverage for “all FDA-approved contraceptive drugs, devices, and other products.” This new legislation is not needed to prevent unintended pregnancies among college students. It just highlights that unborn children don’t matter to the State of New York.
- Even for students who are not pro-life, it seems odd for New York to institute a special fund for abortifacients in state universities and colleges when there are so many pressing matters in higher education. Colleges and universities are always in need of more up-to-date textbooks, newer technology, and added faculty members to expose students to more areas of study. These are the things that more funding should be going to, not abortion-inducing drugs. Colleges and universities were created to promote teaching and learning, not pro-abortion social engineering.

This legislation prioritizes the ideological agenda of abortion zealots over educational quality in New York’s university system. It is bad for the unborn and bad for New York students. New York State Right to Life urges all lawmakers to vote against this dangerous and superfluous piece of legislation.