

REFERENDUM 20 BILL NUMBER

Chapter 3, Laws of 1970

Official ballot title:*

CHANGES IN ABORTION LAW

AN ACT permitting the termination of pregnancy when performed: (1) By or under the supervision of a licensed physician; (2) within four lunar months after conception upon a woman not quick with child who has resided in this state for at least ninety days prior to termination; (3) with the woman's consent and that of her husband, if she is residing with him, or if unmarried and under eighteen years of age, with her consent and that of her legal guardian; and providing that no objecting hospital, physician or other person shall be required to participate in a termination of pregnancy.

Vote cast by members of the 1970 Legislature on final passage:

SENATE: (49 members) Yeas, 25; Nays, 23; Absent or not voting, 1.

HOUSE: (99 members) Yeas, 64; Nays, 31; Absent or not voting, 4.

*Ballot Title as issued by the Attorney General.

Statement **FOR**

Abortion Reform—Six good reasons why you should vote "for":

Freedom of Choice

The decision to bear children is a basic human right. No law or government should be able to tell you whether or not you must bear a child!

Prevention of cruelty to mothers

The present law says that except to save the life of the mother it is a *crime* for any woman to have a pregnancy terminated. Even though it may be the result of rape or incest! Even though a woman may be economically, physically or psychologically incapable of caring for her child! Even though there is a high probability of an infant with severe mental or physical deformity!

Prevention of cruelty to children

It is cruel to bring unwanted children into this world. It is cruel to use innocent babies as retribution or punishment. A still deeper tragedy—consider the numbers of unwanted children born to parents who beat and abuse them.

An end to hypocrisy

Women who have money can safely and legally leave our state and obtain abortions elsewhere. Girls and women who don't have the economic means resort to back-alley or

self-inflicted abortions. Many are permanently crippled. Contraception sometimes fails.

A humane and compassionate solution

Read Referendum 20! It *does not* represent so-called "abortion on demand". It *does* free the medical profession to deal responsibly with women in crisis.

Endorsed by doctors, lawyers and clergy

Referendum 20 is overwhelmingly endorsed by professional people who confront the problems of unwanted pregnancies in their daily work. Medical and nursing associations, attorneys, adoptive agencies, social workers, the Washington PTA and Council of Churches—these are just some of the groups who urge the passage of this referendum.

**Let's put an end to a cruel and hypocritical law—
vote for abortion reform.**

Committee appointed to compose statement FOR Referendum Bill No. 20:

JOEL PRITCHARD, State Senator; LOIS NORTH, State Representative; DAVID SPRAGUE, State Representative.

Advisory Committee: ROBERT B. HUNTER, M.D., Past President, Washington State Medical Association; Rev. EVERETT J. JENSEN, General Secretary, Washington State Council of Churches; W. O. ROBERTSON, M.D., Chairman, Catholics for Individual Responsibility Concerning Abortion; Mrs. W. O. CREIGHTON, President, Washington Congress of Parents and Teachers; BETTY B. FLETCHER, President, Children's Home Society of Washington.

*Explanatory comment issued by the
Attorney General as required by law*

The Law as it now exists:

Under present law it is a criminal offense for any person, including the prospective mother, herself, to cause intentionally the termination of any pregnancy unless it is necessary to do so in order to preserve her life or the life of the fetus.

Effect of Referendum Bill No. 20 if approved into Law:

If approved, the act will authorize, but not require, a licensed physician to terminate the pregnancy of a woman if all of several conditions exist. First, the pregnancy may be terminated only if the woman is "not quick with child," that is, if she has not felt the first movements of the fetus. In any event, the termination must take place within four lunar months after conception.

Second, the consent of the woman must be obtained. If she is married and residing with her husband, his consent must also be obtained. If the woman is unmarried and under the age of eighteen, the consent of her legal guardian is necessary.

Third, the woman requesting the termination must have resided within the state of Washington for at least ninety days prior to the date of termination.

Fourth, the termination may only be performed in an accredited hospital or approved medical facility, unless the physician determines that the termination is immediately necessary to meet a medical emergency. Any physician who violates this provision is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

The act further provides that no hospital, physician, nurse, hospital employee, or any other person shall be required to participate in any termination of pregnancy, and that any person refusing to participate shall not be discriminated against in employment or professional privileges because of that refusal.

Note: Complete text of Referendum Bill No. 20 appears on Page 23.

Statement AGAINST

The baby's heart begins to beat in the first twenty-two days. At one month he has grown ten thousand times his original size. At seven weeks he is a well-proportioned small-scale baby. From the beginning he has all his inherited characteristics from both parents. By the third month his facial features are delicately formed. He can turn his head, squint, frown and may even struggle for breath.

At four lunar months, a marvel of perfection

Referendum 20 is especially cruel because it allows the new child to be destroyed up to the pre-natal age of four months. The fourth month unborn baby is roughly the size of your fist. He is a tiny boy or girl. He is very much alive. His eyes are about to open and he will soon utter his first sound. He sucks his thumb. His skin is sensitive and he squirms to avoid pain. He has a determined instinct to survive.

A giant step backward for mankind

In abortion the child experiences a violent death. By whatever means, curretage, saline solution or suction, the result is the same; a human life is ended.

Abortion-on-demand as proposed under Referendum 20 is not enlightened social change. It is ironic that the most creative, humane and progressive nation now con-

siders abortion, a decadent backward means as a solution to its social problems.

Abortion-on-demand—a product of panic

The solution to unwanted children lies not in killing the child. Birth control, family planning and education all provide reasonable alternatives. We are making strong progress with these and other humane solutions now. Referendum 20 would halt this progress.

Make a conscientious judgment

Common sense dictates that under the provision dealing with medical emergency it will increase "back room" abortions, not prevent them. Fathers can be deprived of their rights. Read the bill carefully. Society must hold all human life sacred or no life is safe. Vote NO.

Committee appointed to compose statement AGAINST Referendum Bill No. 20:

ROBERT C. RIDDER, State Senator; MARGARET (MRS. JOSEPH) HURLEY, State Representative; A. JOHN NICHOLSON, Attorney.

Advisory Committee: WILLIAM A. GISSBERG, State Senator; WILLIAM S. DAY, State Senator; KENNETH D. VAN DERHOEF, Attorney; MRS. JEAN BENNETT, A.C.S.W. (Academy of Certified Social Workers); WAYNE A. CHESLEDON, M.D., Seattle.

COMPLETE TEXT OF

REFERENDUM BILL NUMBER 20

(CHAPTER 3, LAWS OF 1970)

Ballot Title as issued by the Attorney General:

CHANGES IN ABORTION LAW

AN ACT permitting the termination of pregnancy when performed: (1) By or under the supervision of a licensed physician; (2) within four lunar months after conception upon a woman not quick with child who has resided in this state for at least ninety days prior to termination; (3) with the woman's consent and that of her husband, if she is residing with him, or if unmarried and under eighteen years of age, with her consent and that of her legal guardian; and providing that no objecting hospital, physician or other person shall be required to participate in a termination of pregnancy.

LEGISLATIVE TITLE
(Senate Bill No. 68)

ABORTION

AN ACT relating to abortion; adding three new sections to chapter 249, Laws of 1909 and to chapter 9.02 RCW; and providing for submission of this act to a vote of the people.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature
of the State of Washington:*

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 249, Laws of 1909, and to chapter 9.02 RCW a new section to read as follows:

Neither the termination by a physician licensed under chapters 18.71 or 18.57 RCW of the pregnancy of a woman not quick with child nor the prescribing, supplying or administering of any medicine, drug or substance to or the use of any instrument or other means on, such woman by a physician so licensed, nor the taking of any medicine, drug or substance or the use or submittal to the use of any instrument or other means by such a woman when following the directions of a physician so licensed, with the intent to terminate such pregnancy, shall be deemed unlawful acts within the meaning of this act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 249, Laws of 1909, and to chapter 9.02 RCW a new section to read as follows:

A pregnancy of a woman not quick with child and not more than four lunar months after conception may be lawfully terminated under this act only: (a) with her prior consent and, if married and residing with her husband or unmarried and under the age of eighteen years, with the prior consent of her husband or legal guardian, respectively, (b) if the woman has resided in this state for at

least ninety days prior to the date of termination, and (c) in a hospital accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals or at a medical facility approved for that purpose by the state board of health, which facility meets standards prescribed by regulations to be issued by the state board of health for the safe and adequate care and treatment of patients: *Provided*, That if a physician determines that termination is immediately necessary to meet the medical emergency the pregnancy may be terminated elsewhere. Any physician who violates this section of this 1970 act or any regulation of the state board of health issued under authority of this section shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. There is added to chapter 249, Laws of 1909, and to chapter 9.02 RCW a new section to read as follows:

No hospital, physician, nurse, hospital employee nor any other person shall be under any duty, by law or contract, nor shall such hospital or person in any circumstances be required, to participate in a termination of pregnancy if such hospital or person objects to such termination. No such person shall be discriminated against in employment or professional privileges because he so objects.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances, is not affected.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. This act shall be submitted to the people for their adoption and ratification, or rejection, at the general election to be held in this state on the Tuesday next succeeding the first Monday in November 1970, in accordance with the provisions of section 1, Article II of the Constitution of the state of Washington, as amended, and the laws adopted to facilitate the operation thereof.

Passed the Senate January 30, 1970.

Passed the House February 4, 1970.

Received directly from the office of the Secretary, State Senate and filed February 9, 1970 in the office of the Secretary of State.

COMPLETE TEXT OF

REFERENDUM BILL NUMBER 21

(CHAPTER 40, LAWS OF 1970)

Ballot Title as issued by the Attorney General:

OUTDOOR RECREATION BONDS—SALES; INTEREST

AN ACT amending a law approved by the voters in 1968 which authorized the sale of \$40,000,000 in bonds for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities; deleting a requirement in the original act that these bonds be sold prior to January 1, 1975; removing the 6% maximum interest rate payable on said bonds and substituting therefor a provision that the state finance committee shall fix the maximum interest rate.