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Topic: HB05309 - AAC THE PROVISION OF NOTICE TO A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A MINOR CHILD WHO SEEKS TO RECEIVE PREGNANCY-RELATED HEALTH CARE SERVICES.
Supports

Testimony:

I am a member of the National Association of Pro-life nurses. I fully support HB 5309 for the parental notification for abortion.

I believe that this bill even having to be legislated is very saddening. In the healthcare profession, we were taught that any health care provider could not even so much as give a minor patient an aspirin or Tylenol without parental consent.

So, given that an abortion is, needless to say more invasive, comes with the risks of any surgical procedure, and the emotional pain that follows, why should this be any different. Of course the parents should be notified.

And for those who argue that the patient undergoing the abortion, knows perfectly well what is being done and can consent, I would ask you this: Are you going to be there when that patient mourns that loss? Are you going to be there if there is a problem with the procedure? Are you going to be there at all if this patient, along with the unborn child dies as a result of a complication? Are you going to be there for the father if that father of the baby didn't want the abortion? Or are you going to shrug it off while saying 'it's not my problem'.

However, it is the parents who will be there through all of this, and the parents will shoulder the pain, grieve the loss with the minor and be there for her should any complications develop.

In closing this bill is not so much a mandate for restricting abortion as it is for doing the right thing; for the minor patient, the unborn child, the father of the unborn child and YES, the parents.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. James Wittenauer, DBA, MSN, RN.