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HOUSE BILL 2759

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Thompson, Pelesky, Fuhrman and Hymes

Read first time 01/18/96. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

1 AN ACT Relating to limiting public funding for abortions; adding a  
2 new section to chapter 9.02 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 9.02 RCW  
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) Public funds shall not be used by the state or local  
7 governments, or any political subdivision or agency thereof, to pay or  
8 otherwise reimburse, either directly or indirectly, any person, agency,  
9 organization, or facility for the performance of any induced abortion.

10 (2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply under the  
11 following circumstances:

12 (a) Where the abortion is necessary to prevent the death of either  
13 the pregnant woman or her unborn child under circumstances where every  
14 reasonable effort is made to preserve the life of each;

15 (b) Where, on the basis of a physician's reasonable, good-faith  
16 clinical judgment, a medical emergency exists that so complicates the  
17 medical condition of a pregnant woman or her unborn child as to  
18 necessitate the immediate abortion of her pregnancy for which a delay  
19 will create serious risk of substantial and irreversible impairment of

1 a major bodily function of the pregnant woman or her unborn child under  
2 circumstances where every reasonable effort is made to preserve the  
3 life and health of each;

4 (c) Where the pregnancy is a result of any offense involving sexual  
5 intercourse as defined in RCW 9A.44.010 and where the offense has been  
6 reported to a law enforcement agency within seven days from the time  
7 the offense occurred; or

8 (d) Where it is otherwise required by federal law as determined to  
9 be binding on the state of Washington by a court of competent  
10 jurisdiction.

11 (3) Public funds may not be used in any circumstance to pay or  
12 otherwise reimburse, either directly or indirectly, any person, agency,  
13 organization, or facility for the performance of any induced abortion  
14 unless it has been confirmed that the household income of the pregnant  
15 women does not exceed ninety percent of the federal poverty level.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
17 preservation of the public peace, health, morals, or safety, or support  
18 of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall  
19 take effect immediately.

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