

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BORN ALIVE INFANTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by

2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read

3 as follows:

9

4 "CHAPTER A

5 BORN ALIVE INFANT PROTECTION ACT

6 §A-1 Short title. This chapter may be cited as the Born

7 Alive Infant Protection Act.

8 §A-2 Findings and purpose. The legislature finds that the

State of Hawaii has a paramount interest in protecting all human

10 life, and if an attempted abortion results in the live birth of

11 an infant, the infant is a legal person for all purposes under

12 the Constitution and laws of this State. The legislature

13 further finds that nearly six thousand abortions nationwide

14 annually reportedly occur after twenty weeks gestation, a time

15 during which a fetus could be viable. Further, Canadian

16 statistics report that four hundred and ninety-one live births

17 occurred over a nine year period that resulted in subsequent

- 1 neonatal deaths after an attempted abortion. Without proper
- 2 legal protection, new-born infants who have unexpectedly
- 3 survived an abortion procedure may be denied appropriate life-
- 4 saving or life-sustaining medical care and treatment and be left
- 5 to die.
- 6 The legislature further finds that protecting an infant
- 7 whose live birth occurred as the result of an attempted abortion
- 8 does not infringe on a woman's right to choose or obtain an
- 9 abortion of a nonviable fetus, or an abortion that is necessary
- 10 to protect the life or health of the mother.
- 11 The purpose of this Act is to ensure the protection and
- 12 promotion of the health and well-being of all infants born alive
- 13 as a result of an abortion performed in the State, to mandate
- 14 that healthcare providers give medically appropriate and
- 15 reasonable life-saving and life-sustaining medical care and
- 16 treatment to all such born alive infants and to provide
- 17 penalties for failure to provide medically appropriate and
- 18 reasonable life-saving and life-sustaining medical care and
- 19 treatment to all such born alive infants.
- 20 §A-3 Application. This chapter shall only apply to
- 21 abortions that result in live births.

1 §A-4 Definitions. As used in this chapter: 2 "Abortion" has the same meaning as in section 453-16. 3 "Born alive" or "live birth" means the complete expulsion 4 or extraction of an infant from his or her mother as a result of 5 an abortion, regardless of the state of gestational development, that, after expulsion or extraction, whether or not the 6 7 umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached, shows 8 any evidence of life, including, but not limited to, one or more 9 of the following: 10 (1) Breathing; 11 (2) A heartbeat; 12 (3) Umbilical cord pulsation; or 13 (4) Definite movement of voluntary muscles. 14 "Consent" means the voluntary agreement or acquiescence by 15 a person of age and with the requisite mental capacity who is 16 not under duress or coercion and who has knowledge or **17** understanding of the act or action to which he or she has agreed 18 or acquiesced. 19 "Facility" or "medical facility" means any public or

private hospital, clinic, center, medical school, medical

training institution, healthcare facility, physician's office,

20

21

- 1 infirmary, dispensary, ambulatory surgical treatment center, or
- 2 other institution or location wherein medical care is provided
- 3 to any person.
- 4 "Healthcare provider" means any person providing aid or
- 5 assistance to a physician or a nurse, or any person authorized
- 6 to provide healthcare to the mother during an abortion.
- 7 "Infant" means a child of the species homo sapiens who has
- 8 been completely expulsed or extracted from his or her mother,
- 9 regardless of the stage of gestational development, until the
- 10 age of thirty days post birth.
- 11 "Nurse" means a person who has been or is currently
- 12 licensed under chapter 457.
- "Physician" means a person who has been or is currently
- 14 licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy under chapter 453.
- "Premature" or "preterm" means occurring prior to the
- 16 thirty-seventh week of gestation.
- 17 §A-5 Requirements and responsibilities. (a) A person
- 18 shall not deny or deprive a born alive infant of nourishment
- 19 with the intent to cause or allow the death of the infant for
- 20 any reason, including, but not limited to:
- 21 (1) The infant was born with a handicap; or

- (2) The infant is not wanted by the parent(s) or
 quardian(s).
- 3 (b) A person shall not deprive a born alive infant of
 4 medically appropriate and reasonable medical care and treatment
 5 or surgical care.
- 6 (c) The requirements of this section shall not be
 7 construed to prevent an infant's parent(s) or guardian(s) from
 8 refusing to give consent to medical treatment or surgical care
 9 which is not medically necessary or reasonable, including care
 10 or treatment which:
- 11 (1) Is not necessary to save the life of the infant;
- 12 (2) Has a potential risk of harm to the infant's life or
 13 health that outweighs the potential benefit to the
 14 infant of the treatment or care; or
- 15 (3) Is treatment that will do no more than temporarily
 16 prolong the act of dying when death is imminent.
- 17 (d) The physician performing an abortion shall take all
 18 medically appropriate and reasonable steps to preserve the life
 19 and health of a born alive infant. If an abortion performed in
 20 a hospital results in a live birth, the physician attending the
 21 abortion shall provide immediate medical care to the infant,

- 1 inform the mother of the live birth, and request transfer of the
- 2 infant to an on-duty resident or emergency care physician who
- 3 shall provide medically appropriate and reasonable care and
- 4 treatment to the infant.
- 5 If an abortion performed in a facility other than a
- 6 hospital results in a live birth, the physician attending the
- 7 abortion shall provide immediate medical care to the infant and
- 8 call 9-1-1 for an emergency transfer of the infant to a hospital
- 9 that shall provide medically appropriate and reasonable care and
- 10 treatment to the infant.
- 11 (e) If the physician described in subsection (d) of this
- 12 section is unable to perform the duties of subsection (d)
- 13 because the physician is assisting the woman on whom the
- 14 abortion was performed, then an attending physician's assistant,
- 15 nurse, or other healthcare provider shall assume the duties
- 16 outlined in subsection (d) of this section.
- 17 (f) Any born alive infant including one born in the course
- 18 of an abortion procedure shall be treated as a legal person
- 19 under the laws of this State, with the same rights to medically
- 20 appropriate and reasonable care and treatment. Birth and death
- 21 certificates shall be issued accordingly.

- If, before the abortion, the mother has stated in 1 2 writing that she does not wish to keep the infant in the event 3 that the abortion results in a live birth, and this writing is 4 not retracted before the attempted abortion, the infant, if born 5 alive, shall immediately upon birth become a ward under the care 6 of the department of human services. 7 No person shall use, or authorize to be used, any born 8 alive infant for any type of scientific research or other kind of experimentation except as necessary to protect the life and 9 10 health of the born alive infant. 11 Any physician, nurse, other healthcare provider, or **12** employee of a hospital, a physician's office, or clinic who has 13 knowledge of failure to comply with the requirements of this 14 section shall immediately report the failure to law enforcement. 15 §A-6 Criminal penalties. (a) Any physician, nurse, or **16** other healthcare provider who intentionally or knowingly fails
- 18 treatment to a born alive infant, where, as a result of that
 19 failure, the infant dies, shall be guilty of the offense of

murder in the second degree under section 707-701.5.

to provide medically appropriate and reasonable care and

17

20

- 1 (b) Any physician, nurse, or other healthcare provider who
- 2 recklessly fails to provide medically appropriate and reasonable
- 3 care and treatment to a born alive infant, where, as a result of
- 4 that failure, the infant dies, shall be quilty of the offense of
- 5 manslaughter under section 707-702.
- **6** (c) If any physician, nurse, other healthcare provider, or
- 7 person, including the parent(s) or guardian(s), conceals the
- 8 corpse of the infant with the intent to conceal the fact of its
- 9 birth or to prevent a determination of whether it was alive,
- 10 that person shall be guilty of the offense of concealing the
- 11 corpse of an infant under section 709-901.
- (d) Any physician, nurse, other healthcare provider, or
- 13 person, including the parent(s) or quardian(s), knowingly
- 14 violates section A-5(h) of this chapter shall be fined not more
- 15 than \$10,000 or imprisoned not more than five years, or both.
- (e) Unless otherwise indicated, the parent(s) or
- 17 quardian(s) of a born alive infant shall not be held criminally
- 18 or civilly liable for the actions of a physician, nurse, or
- 19 other healthcare provider that are in violation of this chapter
- 20 and to which the parent(s) or guardian(s) did not give consent.

1 §A-7 Civil and administrative action. (a) Any conviction 2 under this chapter shall be admissible in a civil suit as prima 3 facie evidence of a failure to provide medically appropriate and 4 reasonable care and treatment to a born alive infant. Any civil 5 action may be based on a claim that the death of or injury to 6 the born alive infant was a result of simple negligence, gross 7 negligence, wantonness, willfulness, intentional conduct, or 8 another violation of the legal standard of care. 9 (b) Failure to comply with the requirements of this **10** chapter shall provide a basis for professional disciplinary 11 action under chapter 453, chapter 457, or any other chapter 12 appropriate, or any appropriate combination thereof, for the 13 suspension or revocation of any license for physicians, licensed 14 and registered nurses, or other licensed or regulated persons. 15 Any conviction of any person for any failure to comply with the 16 requirements of this chapter shall result in the automatic 17 suspension of his or her license for a period of no less than 18 one year. 19 **SA-8** Construction. (a) Nothing in this chapter shall be 20 construed to affirm, deny, expand, or contract any legal status

- 1 or legal right applicable to any member of the species homo
- 2 sapiens at any point prior to being born alive.
- 3 (b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to affect
- 4 existing federal or state law regarding abortion.
- 5 (c) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as creating
- 6 or recognizing a right to abortion.
- 7 (d) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to alter
- 8 generally accepted medical standards."
- 9 SECTION 2. Section 453-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 10 amended to read as follows:
- 11 "§453-16 Intentional termination of pregnancy; penalties;
- 12 refusal to perform. (a) No abortion shall be performed in this
- 13 State unless:
- 14 (1) The abortion is performed by a licensed physician or
- surgeon, or by a licensed osteopathic physician and
- 16 surgeon; and
- 17 (2) The abortion is performed in a hospital licensed by
- 18 the department of health or operated by the federal
- 19 government or an agency thereof, or in a clinic or
- 20 physician's or osteopathic physician's office.

1 Abortion shall mean an operation to intentionally (b) 2 terminate the pregnancy of a nonviable fetus. [The termination 3 of a pregnancy of a viable fetus is not included in this 4 section.] 5 The termination of a pregnancy of a viable fetus shall 6 be subject to the born alive infant protection act, chapter A. 7 [(c)] (d) The State shall not deny or interfere with a 8 female's right to choose or obtain an abortion of a nonviable 9 fetus or an abortion that is necessary to protect the life or 10 health of the female. 11 [(d)] (e) Any person who knowingly violates subsection 12 (a) shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more 13 than five years, or both. 14 [+(e)-] (f) Nothing in this section shall require any 15 hospital or any person to participate in an abortion nor shall 16 any hospital or any person be liable for a refusal." 17 SECTION 3. Section 453-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 18 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows: 19 In addition to any other actions authorized by law, 20 any license to practice medicine and surgery may be revoked,

limited, or suspended by the board at any time in a proceeding

21

•	before the board, or may be defined, for any cause authorized by		
2	law, incl	uding	but not limited to the following:
3	(1)	Proc	uring, or aiding or abetting in procuring, a
4		crim	inal abortion;
5	(2)	Fail	ing to comply with the requirements of the born
6		aliv	e infant protection act, chapter A.
7	[(2)]	(3)	Employing any person to solicit patients for
8		one'	s self;
9	[(3)]	(4)	Engaging in false, fraudulent, or deceptive
10		adve	rtising, including but not limited to:
11		(A)	Making excessive claims of expertise in one or
12			more medical specialty fields;
13		(B)	Assuring a permanent cure for an incurable
14			disease; or
15		(C)	Making any untruthful and improbable statement in
16			advertising one's medical or surgical practice or
17			business;
18	[(4)]	(5)	Being habituated to the excessive use of drugs or
19		alco	hol; or being addicted to, dependent on, or a
20		habi	tual user of a narcotic, barbiturate, amphetamine,
21		hall	ucinogen, or other drug having similar effects:

1	[-(5) -]	(6) Practicing medicine while the ability to practice
2	•	is impaired by alcohol, drugs, physical disability, or
3		mental instability;
4	[-(6) -]	(7) Procuring a license through fraud,
5		misrepresentation, or deceit, or knowingly permitting
6		an unlicensed person to perform activities requiring a
7		license;
8	[(7)]	(8) Professional misconduct, hazardous negligence
9		causing bodily injury to another, or manifest
10		incapacity in the practice of medicine or surgery;
11	[(8)]	(9) Incompetence or multiple instances of negligence,
12		including but not limited to the consistent use of
13		medical service, which is inappropriate or
14		unnecessary;
15	[(9)]	(10) Conduct or practice contrary to recognized
16		standards of ethics of the medical profession as
17		adopted by the Hawaii Medical Association, the
18		American Medical Association, the Hawaii Association
19		of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons, or the
20		American Osteopathic Association;

1	[(10)]	(11) Violation of the conditions or limitations upon
2		which a limited or temporary license is issued;
3	[(11)]	(12) Revocation, suspension, or other disciplinary
4		action by another state or federal agency of a
5		license, certificate, or medical privilege for reasons
6		as provided in this section;
7	[(12)]	(13) Conviction, whether by nolo contendere or
8		otherwise, of a penal offense substantially related to
9		the qualifications, functions, or duties of a
10		physician or osteopathic physician, notwithstanding
11		any statutory provision to the contrary;
12	[(13)]	(14) Violation of chapter 329, the uniform controlled
13		substances act, or any rule adopted thereunder except
14		as provided in section 329-122;
15	[(14)]	(15) Failure to report to the board, in writing, any
16		disciplinary decision issued against the licensee or
17		the applicant in another jurisdiction within thirty
18		days after the disciplinary decision is issued; or
19	[(15)]	(16) Submitting to or filing with the board any
20		notice, statement, or other document required under



1		this chapter, which is false or untrue or contains any
2		material misstatement or omission of fact."
3	SECT	ION 4. Section 457-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4	amended b	y amending subsection (a) as follows:
5	"(a)	In addition to any other actions authorized by law,
6	the board	shall have the power to deny, revoke, limit, or
7	suspend a	ny license to practice nursing as a registered nurse or
8	as a lice	nsed practical nurse applied for or issued by the board
9	in accord	ance with this chapter, and to fine or to otherwise
10	disciplin	e a licensee for any cause authorized by law, including
11	but not 1	imited to the following:
12	(1)	Fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure
13		a license to practice nursing as a registered nurse or
14		as a licensed practical nurse;
15	(2)	Gross immorality;
16	(3)	Unfitness or incompetence by reason of negligence,
17		habits, or other causes;
18	(4)	Habitual intemperance, addiction to, or dependency on
19		alcohol or other habit-forming substances;
20	(5)	Mental incompetence;

7	(6)	onprofessional conduct as defined by the board in
2		accordance with its own rules;
3	(7)	Wilful or repeated violation of any of the provisions
4		of this chapter or any rule adopted by the board;
5	(8)	Revocation, suspension, limitation, or other
6		disciplinary action by another state of a nursing
7		license for reasons as provided in this section;
8	(9)	Conviction, whether by nolo contendere or otherwise,
9		of a penal offense substantially related to the
10		qualifications, functions, or duties of a nurse,
11		notwithstanding any statutory provision to the
12		contrary;
13	(10)	Failure to report to the board any disciplinary action
14		taken against the licensee in another jurisdiction
15		within thirty days after the disciplinary action
16		becomes final;
17	(11)	Submitting to or filing with the board any notice,
18		statement, or other document required under this
19		chapter, which is false or untrue or contains any
20		material misstatement of fact, including a false

1		attestation of compliance with continuing competency		
2		requirements; [or]		
3	(12)	Failing to comply with the requirements of the born		
4		alive infant protection act, chapter A; or		
5	[(12)]	(13) Violation of the conditions or limitations upon		
6		which any license is issued."		
7	SECT	ION 5. Section 709-901, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is		
8	amended to	o read as follows:		
9	"§70	9-901 Concealing the corpse of an infant. (1) A		
10	person co	mmits the offense of concealing the corpse of an infant		
11	if the person conceals the corpse of a new-born child with			
12	intent to	conceal the fact of its birth or to prevent a		
13	determina	tion of whether it was born dead or alive.		
14	(2)	If an attempted abortion results in a live birth under		
15	chapter A	, the born alive infant shall be considered a new-born		
16	child under this section.			
17	[(2)] (3) Concealing the corpse of an infant is a		
18	misdemean	or."		
19	SECT	ION 6. This Act does not affect rights and duties that		
20	matured,	penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were		
21	begun bef	ore its effective date.		



- 1 SECTION 7. In codifying the new sections added by sections
- 2 2, 3, 4, and 5 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall
- 3 substitute appropriate section numbers for the letters used in
- 4 designating the new sections in this Act.
- 5 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 7 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

8

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 4 2017

Report Title:

Born Alive Infant; Abortion; Penalties.

Description:

Ensures the protection and promotion of the health and wellbeing of all infants born alive the State. Mandates medically appropriate and reasonable life-saving and life-sustaining medical care and treatment to all born alive infants. Provides civil and criminal penalties.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.