

Abortion Supporters in Filibuster Mode

Sen. Robert Mayer (R-Dexter) brought his informed consent to abortion bill (SB793) before the Missouri Senate this week for opening debate. This is only the opening skirmish in a long battle.

Opponents are already in filibuster mode. Sen. Joan Bray (D-St.Louis) offered an amendment blocking a woman considering an abortion from receiving any information such as ultrasound until the identity of the father is established.

Bray's amendment states, "[A]ll the provisions of the bill shall be subject to the paternity of the father of the unborn child being established." The amendment goes on to say that "[I]f paternity cannot be established, then the informed consent provisions shall not be applicable to the pregnant woman."

One can liken the thinking of this amendment to refusing to throw a life buoy to someone drowning until they indicate who their father or mother is.

It can take months to establish paternity and sometimes it is not possible at all.

Senator Mayer laid the bill over with the Bray amendment pending. More debate is expected when the MO Senate returns from spring break.

Two main provisions of the bill require a doctor to meet with a woman considering an abortion at least 24 hours before performing an abortion. The woman would also be given an opportunity to view an ultrasound of her developing child, and receive information on agencies that provide alternatives to abortion services.