

## **Bill Explainer: H.B. 560 “Licensing Modifications”**

Rep. Karianne Lisonbee / Sen. Dan McCay

**PPAC Position:** Neutral

### **Bill Description:**

HB 560 repeals key aspects of the Clinic Ban from 2023 that are currently in litigation and blocked by state courts from going into effect. HB 560 does not repeal all aspects of the Clinic Ban, just the elements enjoined by the courts.

For example, the bill retains the Clinic Ban’s 18-week ceiling on abortions due to rape. HB 560 also keeps the improved language around abortion exceptions for threats to life/health of the mother and fetal anomalies.

### **PPAC Position:**

Repealing an abortion ban is a good outcome for any Utah legislation.

However, the justification for this bill is not positive from a reproductive rights standpoint. Anti-abortion lawmakers aren't giving up on banning abortion in Utah. Instead, they are consolidating their efforts behind the Trigger Ban, a separate law which is also blocked by the courts and is awaiting a decision from the Utah Supreme Court.

HB 560 is another attempt by anti-abortion lawmakers to influence the courts to reach a decision that will ban abortion access in Utah.

As a result, **Planned Parenthood Action Council of Utah is neutral on this bill. We understand how lawmakers can vote for or against this bill based on different reasons.**

### **Utah Abortion Litigation Overview:**

- There are two abortion bans currently blocked by state court injunctions in Utah.
- First, is the Trigger Ban, which was passed as SB174 in 2020 and has been barred from taking effect since 2022 in the aftermath of the *Dobbs* decision. We are currently waiting for the Utah Supreme Court to rule on the fate of the injunction blocking this ban.
- The second is the Clinic Ban, passed in 2023 as HB467. It is also blocked by a state court from going into effect but has not been appealed to the Utah Supreme Court.
- HB 560 repeals key aspects of the Clinic Ban (HB467) that are currently in litigation and blocked by state courts from going into effect.
- While court injunctions against these bans remain in place, abortion is still legal in Utah up to 18 weeks.