

## The Blue Banner's View

# Female lawmakers take stand for equality in health care

House bill 1116 in Georgia states, "Thousands of children are deprived of birth in this state every year because of the lack of state regulation over vasectomies."

That's right, this bill proposes to prohibit vasectomies.

Sounds crazy, right?

How about an amendment proposed in Oklahoma which states, "Any action in which a man ejaculates or otherwise deposits semen anywhere but in a woman's vagina shall be interpreted and construed as an action against an unborn child."?

Across the country, news of these and several other proposed bills might be making people wonder, "Are these for real?" or, "Is this a joke?"

In reality, it's neither.

These laws weren't proposed with the intention of being passed.

In fact, the amendment in Oklahoma has already been shot down.

Female Democrats proposed these laws to make a statement.

We won't stand aside and let you control our health care without a fight.

So in answer to the numerous debates, laws, amendments and bills

**"Thousands of children are deprived of birth in this state every year because of the lack of state regulation over vasectomies."**

**- House Bill 1116, Georgia**

concerning abortion, contraceptives and other means of health care for women, these women are taking a stab at men's health.

Sure, these laws sound utterly ridiculous. But that's exactly the point.

If lawmakers can pass laws prohibiting aspects of women's health or making it more difficult for women to access certain types of health care, why can't we do the same for men?

If you want to tell us it's immoral to

provide women with free contraceptives, then the same can be said for vasectomies.

Both prevent pregnancy; both should be subject to the same regulations.

Chances are, these proposed laws will epically fail in a vote. But they have already served their purpose.

It sounds ridiculous to make amendments targeting aspects of men's health care.

Just as ridiculous as targeting

women's.

Sure, plenty of arguments exist against making contraceptives available for free. And even more arguments exist against abortion rights.

But the point is, all of these recent laws and amendments have a huge impact on women's health and the majority of legislatures passing these laws are men.

A recent quote to hit Tumblr, Facebook and other social media networks poses this question to anti-abortion activists: "People say abortion is murder... Does that make condoms kidnapping?"

The witty quote probably induces laughter, but the underlying message is serious.

How far will these laws and amendments attacking women's sexual health rights be allowed to go?

To the women who proposed these laws, thank you for standing up and making a point.

And to the conservatives who continue to fight against women's health care rights?

Keep it coming.

We can think of a few more ridiculous laws, too.

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