

2018 New York State YMCA Youth And Government

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Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3 Bill #: AF-22

Sponsors: Cenk Yigit, Gurkan Yigit

AN ACT TO: Amend Section § 125.05 Article 3 of Penal Law to change the terms of legal abortion.

The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>

New York state law considers abortions legal up to twenty-four weeks after conception. This bill will mandate that a legal abortion can be performed no later than twelve weeks after conception.

Summary of Provisions

<u>Section 1</u> – Definitions

- § 125.05 Homicide, abortion and related offenses; definitions of terms. The following definitions are applicable to this article:
- 1. "Person," when referring to the victim of a homicide, means a human being who has been born and is alive.
- 2. "Abortional act" means an act committed upon or with respect to a female, whether by another person or by the female herself, whether she is pregnant or not, whether directly upon her body or by the administering, taking or prescription of drugs or in any other manner, with intent to cause a miscarriage of such female.
- 3. "Justifiable abortional act." An abortional act is justifiable when committed upon a female with her consent by a duly licensed physician acting (a) under a reasonable belief that such is necessary to preserve her life, or, (b) within twenty-four twelve weeks from the commencement of her pregnancy. A pregnant female's commission of an abortional act upon herself is justifiable when she acts upon the advice of a duly licensed physician (1) that such act is necessary to preserve her life, or, (2) within twenty-four twelve weeks from the commencement of her pregnancy. The submission by a female to an abortional act is justifiable when she believes that it is being committed by a duly licensed physician, acting under a reasonable belief that such act is necessary to preserve her life, or, within twenty-four twelve weeks from the commencement of her pregnancy.

Justification

Scientists have discovered that performing an abortion after 12 weeks puts the women at a higher risk of death. By reducing the time from 24 weeks to 12 weeks, health risks that come with the procedure with be combatted, fatalities of mothers will be minimalize and humane practices of embryonic removal will be ensured. After 12 weeks, the embryo can already be considered a fetus and should be



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treated as a human being. This bill proposes that once the first trimester has passed, it will be illegal to perform an abortion, even with a physician's advice. This does not disregard a woman's right to choose whether or not she has an abortion, rather it takes into account the rights of her unborn child as well. This act is rightly a woman's choice, however, it should be a choice that is made faster, particularly prior to the second trimester.

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Fiscal Implications

There are no fiscal implications.

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Effective Date

This bill will go into effect January 1, 2019.

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