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HOUSE BILL 608

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

Rebecca Dow and Cathrynn N. Brown and David M. Gallegos  
and Rod Montoya

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH; ALLOWING HEALTH FACILITIES AND ASSOCIATED  
PERSONS TO REFUSE TO ADMIT PATIENTS FOR ABORTIONS OR TO  
PARTICIPATE IN ABORTIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** [NEW MATERIAL] HEALTH FACILITIES--REFUSAL TO  
PARTICIPATE IN MEDICAL PROCEDURES.--

A. A health facility shall not be required to admit  
any patient for the purposes of performing an abortion.

B. The following persons shall not be required to  
participate in medical procedures, including the dispensing of  
medication, that will result in the termination of a pregnancy  
if they object to the abortion on moral, religious or personal  
conviction grounds:

(1) a person who is a member of, or associated

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1 with, the staff of a health facility;

2 (2) any person acting under the direction of a  
3 physician; or

4 (3) any person employed in a health facility  
5 in which an abortion may be performed.

6 C. The refusal of a person to participate in an  
7 abortion shall not form the basis of any disciplinary or other  
8 recriminatory action against the person.

9 D. As used in this section:

10 (1) "abortion" means the intentional  
11 termination of the pregnancy of a female by a person who knows  
12 the female is pregnant; and

13 (2) "health facility" means a facility  
14 licensed by the department of health pursuant to the provisions  
15 of the Public Health Act.