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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 47

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

ROD ADAIR

A JOINT MEMORIAL

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO DIRECT THE HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO
ADOPT REGULATIONS PROHIBITING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR LATE-
TERM ABORTIONS USING THE PROCEDURE OF PARTIAL BIRTH ABORTION.

WHEREAS, abortions are performed late in the second and in
the third trimesters of a woman's pregnancy; and

WHEREAS, these procedures are known to have potentially
serious consequences to the mother; and

WHEREAS, a part of these late-term abortions are performed
using a procedure called "partial-birth abortion" in which a
baby is partially delivered and then killed, after which the
head of the dead baby is subsequently removed from the mother's
body in a manner potentially injurious to the mother; and

WHEREAS, the procedure described does not fulfill a
legitimate interest of government in safeguarding health,

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1 maintaining medical standards and protecting life; and

2 WHEREAS, this procedure is abhorrent to persons who value
3 human life and believe the government at every level should
4 recognize this belief and take positive steps to prevent
5 subversion of this value system without regard to individuals'
6 opinions and strongly held views on the subject of abortion
7 generally; and

8 WHEREAS, it is repugnant to the vast majority of the
9 citizens of New Mexico that public funds may be used to pay for
10 the procedure described;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the governor exercise his executive
13 authority and direct the human services department to develop
14 and adopt a regulation prohibiting the use of any state funds to
15 purchase abortions services involving the use of the partial
16 birth abortion procedure; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
18 forthwith delivered to the governor and to the secretary of
19 human services.