



Life at Conception Model Legislation Frequently Asked Questions

How does the model legislation define abortion?

The model legislation defines “abortion” as taking certain actions “with the purpose to terminate the pregnancy of a woman, with the knowledge that the termination by any of those means will with reasonable likelihood cause the death of the unborn child.

Does this definition of abortion ban birth control?

*No. The model legislation explicitly does **not** “prohibit . . . a contraceptive measure, drug, or chemical [it] is administered before the time when a pregnancy could be determined through conventional medical testing.”*

Birth control that acts through barrier contraception (i.e. condoms, vaginal sponge, spermicide, cervical cap/shield, diaphragm, sterilization) prevents fertilization and thus does not cause abortion. Contraception such as Ella, IUDs, birth control pills, and hormonal patches, shots, implants, or rings are not prohibited under the model legislation.

However, the abortion lobby often mischaracterizes abortifacients as birth control.

Are there exemptions for intravenous fertilization (“IVF”)?

IVF is not banned or restricted by the Life at Conception Model Legislation.

While future iterations of the model legislation may restrict IVF, they will not punish prospective parents because the model legislation only punishes those who intent to conduct an abortion.



At what point in a pregnancy can this legislation be enforced?

Currently, a pregnancy is only detectable after implantation when various hormones are released to support the life of the baby. While Life at Conception laws ban abortion from the point of conception, they currently can only be enforced to the extent a pregnancy is detectable; that is, after implantation.

Students for Life Action
600 Princess Anne St. #7667
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
540-834-4600

info@studentsforlifeaction.org