

State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/12/25 S3/18/25

95th General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2025

HOUSE BILL 1551

By: Representative Gazaway

By: Senator Gilmore

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CRIMINAL ABORTION;
TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF COERCED CRIMINAL ABORTION BY
MEANS OF FRAUD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CRIMINAL
ABORTION; AND TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF
COERCED CRIMINAL ABORTION BY MEANS OF
FRAUD.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

*SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 61, Subchapter 1, is amended
to add an additional section to read as follows:*

5-61-103. Coerced criminal abortion by means of fraud.

(a) As used in this section:

*(1) "Abortion" means a chemical abortion as defined in § 20-16-
2502; and*

*(2)(A) "Abortion-inducing drug" means a medicine, drug,
combination of drugs or chemicals, or any other substance used with the
intent of causing an abortion including without limitation off-label use of
drugs known to have abortion-inducing properties, such as mifepristone, RU-
486, Mifeprex, Cytotec, misoprostol, and methotrexate.*

(B) "Abortion-inducing drug" does not include:

*(i) Drugs that may be known to increase the risk of
miscarriage, but which are prescribed for other medical indications such as
chemotherapeutic agents or diagnostic drugs; and*



1 (ii) Contraceptives, emergency contraceptives, or
2 methotrexate when used to treat an ectopic pregnancy.

3 (b) A person commits coerced criminal abortion by means of fraud if he
4 or she knowingly administers or gives an abortion-inducing drug to a pregnant
5 woman without her knowledge or consent with the purpose to cause an abortion.

6 (c) A person who violates subsection (b) of this section upon
7 conviction is guilty of a Class B felony.

8 (d) A prosecution under this section does not prevent prosecution
9 under another section if a person commits coerced criminal abortion by means
10 of fraud and the use of an abortion-inducing drug causes the death or bodily
11 injury of the pregnant woman or an unborn child.

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13 /s/Gazaway
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16 APPROVED: 4/8/25
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