Bill Summary 1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 834
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Author: Sen. Daniels
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Bill Analysis

SB 834 makes certain abortion statutes uniform with respect to exceptions and definitions. It authorizes healthcare providers to perform or induce abortions if necessary to preserve the life of the pregnant woman in a medical emergency, if the pregnancy is the result of rape or sexual assault that has been reported to law enforcement, or the pregnancy is the result of incest of a minor that has been reported to law enforcement. A medical emergency is a condition that cannot be remedied through the delivery of the child or complicates the medical condition of the pregnant woman as to necessitate the immediate abortion of her pregnancy. Administration of contraceptives if the contraceptive was used prior to the time when a pregnancy could be determined through conventional medical testing or in vitro fertilization shall not be construed to violate the general prohibition of abortion. Additionally, the removal of an ectopic pregnancy or a miscarried unborn child is authorized by the measure. Such removals and abortions shall be reported to the State Department of Health in a form outlined in the measure. Providers shall use their reasonable medical judgment as defined in the measure to determine if a medical emergency exists. The measure defines abortion as the act of using, prescribing, administering, procuring, or selling of any instrument, medicine, drug, or any other substance, device, or means with the purpose to terminate the pregnancy of a woman, with knowledge that the termination by any of those means will with reasonable likelihood cause the death of an unborn child, but excludes the use of contraceptives and the exemptions listed above. The measure repeals a statute pertaining to self-induced abortions and physician reporting requirements as well as conforms other sections of law to the provisions of this measure.

Repealer: 63 O.S. Section 1-733 and Section 1-745.6

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