

HR 5551

Heartbeat Informed Consent Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: Sep 18, 2014

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Sep 19, 2014)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/5551>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bachmann, Michele [R-MN-6]

Party: Republican • **State:** MN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brady, Kevin [R-TX-8]	R · TX		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Gibbs, Bob [R-OH-7]	R · OH		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Harris, Andy [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Huelskamp, Tim [R-KS-1]	R · KS		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Huizenga, Bill [R-MI-2]	R · MI		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]	R · OH		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Long, Billy [R-MO-7]	R · MO		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2]	R · NM		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Pitts, Joseph R. [R-PA-16]	R · PA		Sep 18, 2014
Rep. Miller, Gary G. [R-CA-31]	R · CA		Nov 13, 2014
Rep. Nunnelee, Alan [R-MS-1]	R · MS		Nov 13, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 19, 2014

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Heartbeat Informed Consent Act - Amends the Public Health Service Act to require abortion providers, if performing an ultrasound on a pregnant woman prior to an abortion, to display the ultrasound images so that she may view them and provide a medical description of the ultrasound images of the unborn child's cardiac activity, if present and viewable.

Requires an abortion provider to make the embryonic or fetal heartbeat audible for the pregnant woman to hear prior to the woman giving informed consent to an abortion if the pregnancy is at least eight weeks after fertilization.

Exempts an abortion provider if the abortion is necessary to save the life of a mother whose life is endangered by a physical disorder, physical illness, or physical injury, including a life-endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself. Requires a certification of the medical condition to be included in the pregnant woman's medical file and kept by the abortion provider for not less than five years.

Subjects an abortion provider who knowingly or recklessly fails to comply with this Act to civil penalties and notification of the appropriate state medical licensing authority. Gives standing to file a civil action for violations of this Act to the Attorney General or a woman upon whom an abortion has been performed in violation of this Act or the parent or legal guardian of such a woman if she is an unemancipated minor.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 19, 2014:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Sep 18, 2014:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 18, 2014:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.