

## S 446

### Informed Consent Act

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Feb 25, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (Feb 25, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/446>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** IA • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Feb 25, 2021
Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]	R · MS		Feb 25, 2021
Sen. Marshall, Roger [R-KS]	R · KS		Feb 25, 2021
Sen. Tillis, Thomas [R-NC]	R · NC		Feb 25, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 25, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 1382	Identical bill	Apr 28, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

## **Informed Consent Act**

This bill establishes new federal criminal offenses related to the performance of abortions and sterilization procedures.

First, the bill prohibits knowingly performing an abortion or sterilization procedure without obtaining informed consent. It provides exceptions, including for an abortion or sterilization procedure that is necessary to save a mother whose life is endangered by a physical (but not psychological or emotional) disorder, illness, or condition.

An individual who performs a prohibited abortion or sterilization procedure is subject to criminal penalties—a fine, a prison term of up to 10 years, or both.

Second, the bill requires federal employees and contractors, as well as employees and contractors of certain federally funded entities, who know about a prohibited abortion or sterilization procedure to report it as soon as possible. An individual who knows about a prohibited abortion or sterilization procedure but fails to report it is subject to a fine, a prison term of up to three years, or both.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Feb 25, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 25, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.