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Letter of Opposition to SB 320 for the Assembly Higher Education Committee

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Dear Assembly Higher Education Committee Members,



Jessica was a student at Sac State, pregnant, and in crisis. She had already had one abortion and didn't want to go through that painful experience again. She was scared. How could she finish her classes? Where would she live? How would she keep her job and pay her bills? She reluctantly considered abortion. Fortunately, she met Students for Life members who were tabling on campus. They helped Jessica with all the resources and support she needed to choose life for her baby. Jessica graduated from Sac State with Stephaun at her side, went on to earn her Master's Degree, married, and has a second son. **See the Channel 13 News Report <http://cbsloc.al/2CU0Jhz>**

Our legislature prides itself on being pro-choice and caring about women, but SB 320 is only about abortion, abortion, and more abortion, ignoring the real needs of pregnant students like Jessica. We oppose SB 320 for these reasons:

1. The \$20 million dollars projected cost of implementing SB 320 would be better spent helping pregnant students reach their educational and life goals rather than paying for more abortions. Pregnant students need help with affordable family housing, transportation, on-campus childcare, lactation stations, diaper changing tables, car-seats, flexible exam schedules, counseling, pre-natal care, and other expenses.

ACTION: There needs to be a specific PROHIBITION against the use of state general funds, taxpayer funds, university funds, and student fees for this abortion expansion effort.

2. The Chemical Abortion Pill Misoprostol kills a human life. This bill forces University health center employees to participate in abortion. Where is their conscience protection? Will pro-life employees be forced to leave the university or will pro-life healthcare providers be given the "Do Not Apply" message when seeking employment? Chemical Abortion was in the news recently when a boyfriend crushed the abortion pills and added them to a drink he secretly gave to his pregnant girlfriend, causing her to miscarry her baby boy at 17 weeks of pregnancy. The boyfriend was sentenced to three years in prison for Fetal Homicide, deliberately and brutally killing his girlfriend's baby using the Chemical Abortion Pill. We do not want these lethal pills distributed on campus, creating increased liability and risk for the universities. <http://ktla.com/2017/12/14/doctor-accused-of-spiking-pregnant-girlfriends-tea-with-abortion-pill/>

"When I was drinking my tea in the evening, I got to the bottom of the cup, there was a gritty substance in there," Fiske said. "And when I looked at it, I could tell that it was a pill that had been ground up."

A few hours later, Fiske started having contractions. She was rushed to Virginia Hospital Center, where she went into labor and lost her baby boy. Fiske said tests showed the abortion pill Misoprostol was found in her system.

3. There is no lack of access to Chemical Abortion. On average, there is a Chemical Abortion provider within 6 miles of every UC and CSU campus.

According to Kim LaPean, spokesperson for the UC Berkeley University Health Services, *“There are four facilities within four miles of the UC Berkeley campus that provide abortion pills”*

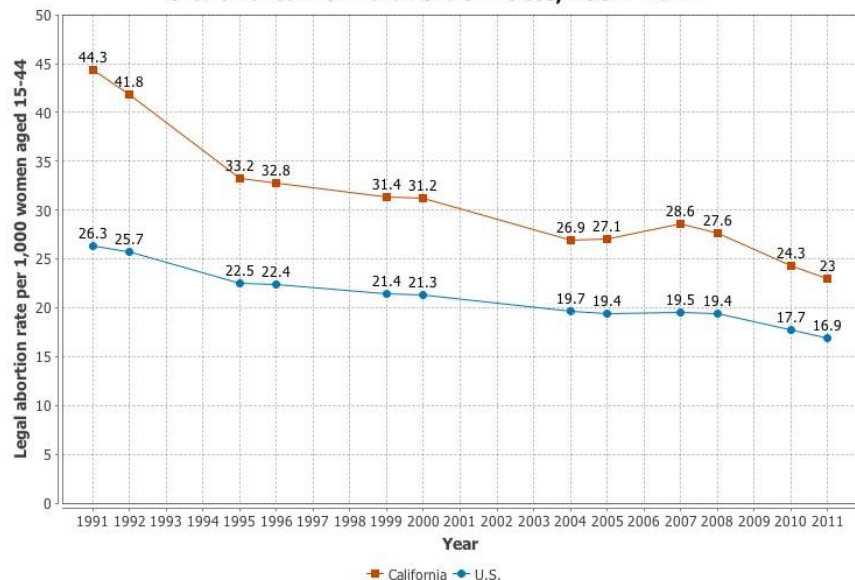
FACT: The average distance from UC/CSU campus to the nearest Chemical Abortion provider is only 5.97 miles.

University	Distance to nearest Chemical Abortion	Nearest Chemical Abortion Provider
CSU Bakersfield	5.8 miles	Planned Parenthood Bakersfield
CSU Cal Maritime	2.8 miles	Planned Parenthood Vallejo
CSU Channel Islands	10.0 miles	Planned Parenthood Thousand Oaks
CSU Chico	3.5 miles	Planned Parenthood Chico
CSU Dominguez Hills	7.6 miles	Planned Parenthood South Bay Lawndale
CSU East Bay	2.3 miles	Planned Parenthood Hayward
CSU Fresno	1.9 miles	Planned Parenthood Fresno
CSU Fullerton	5.3 miles	Planned Parenthood Anaheim
CSU Humboldt	9.9 miles	Planned Parenthood Eureka
CSU Long Beach	6.9 miles	Planned Parenthood Long Beach
CSU Los Angeles	8.4 miles	Planned Parenthood Hollywood
CSU Monterey Bay	4.5 miles	Planned Parenthood Seaside
CSU Northridge	5.9 miles	Planned Parenthood Canoga Park
CSU Cal Poly Pomona	4.9 miles	Planned Parenthood Pomona
CSU Sacramento	3.2 miles	Planned Parenthood Sacramento
CSU San Bernardino	11.1 miles	Planned Parenthood San Bernardino
CSU San Diego	1.4 miles	Planned Parenthood College Avenue
CSU San Francisco	5.4 miles	Planned Parenthood San Francisco
CSU San Jose	4.5 miles	Planned Parenthood San Jose
CSU Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	1.7 miles	Planned Parenthood San Luis Obispo
CSU San Marcos	4.1 miles	Planned Parenthood Escondido
CSU Sonoma	8.2 miles	Planned Parenthood Santa Rosa
CSU Stanislaus	15.3 miles	Planned Parenthood Modesto
UC Berkeley	3.5 miles	Planned Parenthood El Cerrito
UC Davis	11.8 miles	Planned Parenthood Woodland
UC Irvine	6.7 miles	Planned Parenthood Costa Mesa
UCLA	5.6 miles	Planned Parenthood Santa Monica
UC Merced	5.6 miles	Planned Parenthood Merced
UC Riverside	6.5 miles	Planned Parenthood Riverside
UC San Diego	6.2 miles	Planned Parenthood Mission Bay
UC San Francisco	3.4 miles	Planned Parenthood San Francisco
UC Santa Barbara	10.7 miles	Planned Parenthood Santa Barbara
UC Santa Cruz	3.3 miles	Planned Parenthood Westside

4. California abortion numbers are at a historic low, dropping 27% since 2008, according the Sacramento Bee. With declining demand for abortion, we do not need to force our university health centers to become abortion clinics.

With such a decline in demand for abortion, why is a mandate needed?

U.S. and California abortion rates, 1991-2011



4. **Instead of adding another burdensome mandate upon our public universities, why not place this mandate upon Planned Parenthood in California,** which has well over \$10 million dollars in “Revenue in Excess of Expenses” in 2017. If the bill proponents feel they need to increase abortion access, then their concerns should be directed towards Planned Parenthood, not by creating burdensome legislative mandates on our already over-budget university systems with rising tuition. So much for “choice”.

Planned Parenthood Affiliate	2013-14 #Patient Visits	2016-17 #Patient Visits	Percent Change in #Patient Visits/year	2013-14 #Abortions	2016-17 #Abortions	Revenue in Excess of Expenses 2016-17 for each Affiliate
Mar Monte	461,849	396,484	↓ -14%	18,169	17,884	\$2.3 million
Los Angeles	270,600	242,071	↓ -10%	12,718	11,329	
Northern California	201,000	188,842	↓ -6%	6,030	3,776	\$6.3 million
Central Coast	<i>No Annual Report available</i>	54,968		<i>No Annual Report available</i>	3,857	
Pasadena San Gabriel Valley	47,819	<i>Not provided in Annual Report</i>		956	1,200	
Pacific Southwest	276,648	277,847	+0.4%	13,932	16,079	\$1.2 million
Orange & San Bernardino	171,832	182,947	+5%	8,591	9,434	\$1.5 million
Totals	1,381,929	1,288,191	↓ -7%	60,396	59,702	

Chemical Abortion is especially painful and traumatic for women. During the Chemical Abortion, women are much more aware of the pain and visual reality of the abortion process, which may require days to complete. The Chemical Abortion Pill label warns of heavy bleeding, *defined as soaking through two full-size sanitary pads per hour and/or passing blood clots larger than the size of a lemon.* Other symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever which can be a sign of serious infection, an ectopic pregnancy or incomplete expulsion of the dead fetus. See the attached personal testimony of a woman’s Chemical Abortion. Imagine this painful experience happening in the dorm toilet late at night with no one to call for help! Lawsuits will certainly take place, adding more expenses to the universities. Will the “Implementation Fund” cover malpractice insurance and law suit settlements?

Vote NO on SB 320. Our universities are intended to be a place of Higher Education, not an abortion clinic. This is not even a pro-choice bill, but exclusively a pro-abortion effort which does nothing to help pregnant students on campus find the comprehensive resources they need in order to have real choices, real options, other than abortion, abortion, and more abortion. Chemical Abortion destroys a human life and hurts women for a lifetime. For the sake of university healthcare providers who do not want to participate in killing a human life, we urge you to vote NO on SB 320.

Abby Johnson's Chemical Abortion Story



In 2003, I was 23 years old, a volunteer at Planned Parenthood and a college student. I didn't want a baby so I had a solution...abortion.

Instead of a surgical abortion, I thought I would choose a more "natural" way to abort...the medication abortion. It was all pills and that seemed really simple. Everything was done at home. It was private, on your schedule, under your control and seemed less invasive. "Nothing worse than a heavy period," according to Planned Parenthood. Sounded pretty easy to me. There didn't appear to be any risks or side effects... Surely if there were risks, they would have told me about them, right?

They gave me a Mifeprex (mifepristone) pill and a brown bag of pills to take home. After taking the Mifeprex, I felt great! No side effects...just like they said. The next day, I took the 4 pills in my brown bag called Misoprostol. They told me these were the pills that would start my bleeding and cramping...but nothing a few Ibuprofen couldn't take care of.

Ten minutes later, I started to feel pain in my abdomen unlike anything I had ever experienced. Then the blood came. It was gushing out of me. I couldn't wear a pad...nothing was able to absorb the amount of blood I was losing. The only thing I could do was sit on the toilet. I sat there for hours...bleeding, throwing up into the bathroom trashcan, crying and sweating.

Sitting in a Tub of Blood

I had vomit all in my hair and on my legs, not to mention how sweaty I was. I filled the tub and climbed in. The cramps kept coming. I opened my eyes after 15 minutes and was horrified. My bathwater was bright red. It looked like I was sitting in the middle of a crime scene. And I guess it was...I had murdered my child. I knew I had to get up and wash the blood off of me

Excruciating Pain, Heavy Bleeding & Blood Clots the Size of Lemons

I felt a pain worse than any other I had experienced. I began to sweat again and felt faint. I grabbed on to the side of the shower wall to steady myself. Then I felt a release...and a splash in the water that was draining beneath me.

A blood clot the size of a lemon had fallen into my bath water. Was that my baby?

I knew this huge clot was not going to go down the drain, so I reached down to pick it up. I was able to grasp the large clot with both hands and move it to the toilet. I sat on the toilet. Another lemon sized blood clot. Then another. And another. I thought I was dying. This couldn't be normal. Planned Parenthood didn't ever tell me this could happen. This must be atypical. I decided that I would call them in the morning...if I didn't die before then. It was around midnight and I had been in the bathroom for a good 12 hours. I knew I couldn't leave yet. I didn't want to lay in the bed...the bleeding was too heavy. And the clots were still coming; not as often, but they were still coming. So, I decided to sleep on the bathroom floor that night...right by the toilet.

Was This a Normal Experience?

The next morning, I called Planned Parenthood as soon as they opened and asked to speak to the nurse. I was told she would call me back soon. She did. I told her about my previous day. She told me, "That is not abnormal." WHAT?? She could not be serious. All of the bleeding, the clotting, the pain...that was NORMAL??? "Yes," she said. "Use heating pads, soak in a warm tub, and take Ibuprofen." I was angry. How could they not tell me the side effects? I felt betrayed. Eight weeks passed. Eight weeks of blood clots. Eight weeks of nausea. Eight weeks of excruciating cramps. Eight weeks of heavy bleeding.