

Exploiting the Unborn: Another Attack on Abortion in Texas

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The Unborn Child Option allows states to extend their Children's Health Insurance Program towards unborn children, which covers *only* delivery-related care. While most states ensure comprehensive health coverage for both the mother and child, **Texas chose to solely cover the unborn child.**

Treating the mother and baby separately created severe health outcomes. Why would Texas expand health insurance to cover unborn children, while neglecting health care for their mothers?

Texas adopted UC to extend the legal definition of "child" and undermine reproductive freedom for women. **Under the guise of protecting pregnant women and their children, Texas' CHIP Perinatal creates language designed to redefine a child as a fetus and move towards overturning Roe v. Wade.**

The Federal Political Environment

The bill was drenched in anti-abortion rhetoric as an attempt to gain votes, under an administration famous for its pro-life stances.

Abortion Access in Texas

There have been 35+ legislative attempts to undermine abortion access in Texas since Roe v. Wade.

Fetal Definitions

If a state's legal definition of "child" includes a fetus, the state should legally treat fetuses one and the same. As such, an abortion would be an equivalent crime to murdering a child.'

Financial and Medically... The Policy Makes No Sense

Texas could not afford to extend CHIP coverage to the unborn without losing existing recipients. Studies show that the policy did not improve infant mortality and increased the likelihood of preterm infants.