

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0003

Wyoming pregnancy centers-autonomy and rights.

Sponsored by: Joint Labor, Health & Social Services Interim  
Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to public health and safety; providing  
2 legislative findings; prohibiting the state and specified  
3 governmental entities from adopting any law, rule or policy  
4 that targets pregnancy centers for oversight or regulation  
5 based on the centers' stance against abortion; providing  
6 definitions; providing penalties; specifying available  
7 damages; providing a right of intervention for members of  
8 the legislature as specified; making conforming amendments;  
9 and providing for an effective date.

10

11 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

12

13 **Section 1.**

14

15 (a) The legislature finds that:

1

2           (i) Pregnancy centers have a considerable and  
3 growing life-affirming impact on the people and communities  
4 that they serve;

5

6           (ii) Pregnancy centers serve people in Wyoming  
7 and across the United States with integrity and compassion;

8

9           (iii) Pregnancy centers provide comprehensive  
10 care to people facing unexpected pregnancies, including  
11 resources to meet their physical, psychological, emotional  
12 and spiritual needs;

13

14           (iv) Pregnancy centers offer women free,  
15 confidential and compassionate services, including  
16 pregnancy tests, peer counseling, twenty-four (24) hour  
17 telephone hotlines, childbirth and parenting classes,  
18 referrals to community health care, adoption referrals and  
19 other support services;

20

21           (v) Many medical pregnancy centers offer  
22 ultrasounds and other medical services;

23

1           (vi) Pregnancy centers encourage women to make  
2 positive life choices by equipping them with complete and  
3 accurate information regarding their pregnancy options and  
4 the development of their unborn children;

5  
6           (vii) Pregnancy centers provide important  
7 support and resources for women who choose childbirth over  
8 abortion;

9  
10           (viii) Pregnancy centers have faced  
11 unprecedented attacks since the United States Supreme  
12 Court's decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health  
13 Organization, which overturned Roe v. Wade and the federal  
14 constitutional right to abortion;

15  
16           (ix) Since 2022, at least one-third (1/3) of the  
17 states have introduced legislation seeking to undermine  
18 pregnancy centers' freedom of speech and association, or  
19 legislation to interfere with their hiring and staffing  
20 decisions, while numerous municipalities have considered  
21 similar ordinances.

22

1       **Section 2.** W.S. 1-39-125 and 35-4-1101 through  
2 35-4-1104 are created to read:

3

4       **1-39-125. Liability; Pregnancy centers.**

5

6 A governmental entity is liable for damages resulting from  
7 a violation of W.S. 35-4-1103, in accordance with W.S.  
8 35-4-1104(a).

9

10                               ARTICLE 11

11                               PREGNANCY CENTERS - PROTECTION

12

13       **35-4-1101. Short title.**

14

15 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Wyoming  
16 Pregnancy Center Autonomy and Rights of Expression (CARE)  
17 Act."

18

19       **35-4-1102. Definitions.**

20

21       (a) As used in this act:

22

1           (i) "Abortion" means the act of using or  
2     prescribing any instrument, medicine, drug or any other  
3     substance, device or means with the intent to terminate the  
4     clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman and for the  
5     purpose of ensuring the death of the unborn child.  
6     "Abortion" shall not include any use, prescription or means  
7     specified in this paragraph if the use, prescription or  
8     means are done with the intent to:

9

10           (A) Save the life or preserve the health of  
11     the unborn child;

12

13           (B) Remove a dead unborn child caused by  
14     miscarriage or stillbirth;

15

16           (C) Remove an ectopic pregnancy; or

17

18           (D) Perform a pre-viability separation  
19     procedure when the procedure is, based on reasonable  
20     medical judgment, necessary to save the life of or prevent  
21     serious physical injury to the pregnant woman.

22

1           (ii) "Abortion-inducing drug" means any  
2 medicine, drug or any other substance prescribed or  
3 dispensed with the intent of terminating the clinically  
4 diagnosable pregnancy of a woman and for the purpose of  
5 ensuring the death of an unborn child. "Abortion-inducing  
6 drug" includes the off-label use of any substance intended  
7 to induce an abortion. "Abortion-inducing drug" does not  
8 include drugs that may be known to cause an abortion but  
9 are prescribed for other medical indications;

10

11           (iii) "Contraception" means the use of any  
12 natural or artificial means to prevent the fertilization of  
13 a human ovum;

14

15           (iv) "Ectopic pregnancy" means the state of  
16 carrying an unborn child outside of the uterine cavity;

17

18           (v) "Miscarriage" or "stillbirth" means a  
19 spontaneous loss of an unborn child;

20

21           (vi) "Pregnancy center" means a private  
22 nonprofit organization that promotes childbirth and  
23 alternatives to abortion and provides people with

1 resources, counseling, classes, referrals and information  
2 related to pregnancy, childbearing, adoption and parenting.  
3 A medical pregnancy center may provide medical testing,  
4 counseling and pregnancy-related care;

5  
6 (vii) "Pre-viability separation procedure" means  
7 a medical procedure performed by a licensed physician to  
8 remove an unborn child from the mother's uterine cavity  
9 before that stage of fetal development when, in the  
10 physician's reasonable medical judgment based on the  
11 particular facts of the case and in light of the most  
12 advanced medical technology and information available,  
13 there is a reasonable likelihood of sustained survival of  
14 the unborn child outside the body of the child's mother,  
15 with or without artificial support. "Pre-viability  
16 separation procedure" does not include an abortion;

17  
18 (viii) "This act" means W.S. 35-4-1101 through  
19 35-4-1104.

20

21 **35-4-1103. Interference with pregnancy centers**  
22 **prohibited.**

23

1           (a) The state and any of its political subdivisions,  
2 counties, cities, towns, special districts and agencies  
3 shall not, through the adoption or enactment of any law,  
4 ordinance, resolution, policy or similar measure:

5

6           (i) Require a pregnancy center to offer or  
7 perform abortions;

8

9           (ii) Require a pregnancy center to offer,  
10 provide or distribute abortion-inducing drugs or  
11 contraception;

12

13           (iii) Require a pregnancy center to refer any  
14 person for abortion, an abortion-inducing drug or  
15 contraception;

16

17           (iv) Require a pregnancy center to counsel in  
18 favor of abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or  
19 contraception;

20

21           (v) Require a pregnancy center to post any  
22 advertisement, sign, flyer or other similar material that



1 promotes or provides any information about obtaining an  
2 abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

3

4 (vi) Prohibit a pregnancy center from providing  
5 information, care, counseling, classes or other services  
6 related to pregnancy, childbirth or parenting because the  
7 pregnancy center does not perform, refer or counsel in  
8 favor of abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or  
9 contraception;

10

11 (vii) Prohibit a pregnancy center from providing  
12 prenatal and postnatal resources, including diapers, baby  
13 clothes, baby furniture, formula and similar items because  
14 the pregnancy center does not perform, refer or counsel in  
15 favor of abortion, abortion-inducing drugs or  
16 contraception;

17

18 (viii) Prohibit a medical pregnancy center from  
19 providing medical testing, counseling and care related to  
20 pregnancy or childbirth because the pregnancy center does  
21 not perform, refer or counsel in favor of abortion,  
22 abortion-inducing drugs or contraception;

23

1           (ix) Prohibit a medical pregnancy center from  
2 counseling a woman on any pregnancy-related care or  
3 treatment, including care or treatment that may reverse the  
4 effects of abortion-inducing drugs;

5  
6           (x) Interfere with the pregnancy center's  
7 staffing or hiring decisions by requiring the center to  
8 interview, hire or continue to employ any person who does  
9 not affirm the center's mission statement or agree to  
10 comply with the center's pro-life ethic and operating  
11 procedure.

12  
13           **35-4-1104. Legal remedies; right of intervention.**

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15           (a) A pregnancy center or any person aggrieved by a  
16 violation of this act may commence a civil action for  
17 damages, declaratory relief, injunctive relief and any  
18 other appropriate relief. A person prevailing in an action  
19 under this subsection shall be entitled to recover an  
20 amount equal to three (3) times the actual damages  
21 sustained. Recovery under this subsection shall be not less  
22 than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) and shall include  
23 all costs and reasonable attorney fees. For purposes of

1 this subsection, damages shall be cumulative and shall in  
2 no way be limited by any other remedies that may be  
3 available under any other federal, state or municipal law.

4

5 (b) By legislative order, the legislature may appoint  
6 one (1) or more members to intervene as a matter of right  
7 in any case in which the constitutionality or legality of  
8 this act is challenged.

9

10 **Section 3.** W.S. 1-39-104(a) is amended to read:

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12 **1-39-104. Granting immunity from tort liability;**  
13 **liability on contracts; exceptions.**

14

15 (a) A governmental entity and its public employees  
16 while acting within the scope of duties are granted  
17 immunity from liability for any tort except as provided by  
18 W.S. 1-39-105 through 1-39-112 and 1-39-122 through  
19 ~~1-39-124~~ 1-39-125. Any immunity in actions based on a  
20 contract entered into by a governmental entity is waived  
21 except to the extent provided by the contract if the  
22 contract was within the powers granted to the entity and  
23 was properly executed and except as provided in W.S.

1 1-39-120(b). The claims procedures of W.S. 1-39-113 apply  
2 to contractual claims against governmental entities.

3

4 **Section 4.** This act is effective July 1, 2026.

5

6 (END)