

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 251

To require the Food and Drug Administration to establish restrictions regarding the qualifications of physicians to prescribe the abortion drug commonly known as RU-486.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 6, 2001

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To require the Food and Drug Administration to establish restrictions regarding the qualifications of physicians to prescribe the abortion drug commonly known as RU-486.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “RU-486 Patient
5 Health and Safety Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESTRICTIONS FOR PRESCRIBING ABORTION**
2 **DRUG.**

3 With respect to the application that was submitted
4 under section 505(b) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cos-
5 metic Act (21 U.S.C. 355(b)) for the drug mifepristone
6 (commonly referred to as RU-486, to be marketed as
7 MIFEPREX), and that was approved on September 28,
8 2000, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting
9 through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs, shall
10 promptly modify the conditions of the approval of such
11 drug to establish the additional restriction that the drug
12 may not be prescribed by any person other than a licensed
13 physician who meets the following requirements:

14 (1) The physician is qualified to handle com-
15 plications resulting from an incomplete abortion or
16 ectopic pregnancy.

17 (2) The physician has been trained to perform
18 surgical abortions and has met all applicable legal
19 requirements to perform such abortions.

20 (3) The physician is certified for ultrasound
21 dating of pregnancy and detecting ectopic preg-
22 nancy.

23 (4) The physician has completed a program re-
24 garding the prescribing of such drug that uses a
25 curriculum approved by the Secretary.

1 (5) The physician has admitting privileges at a
2 hospital to which the physician can travel in one
3 hour or less, determined on the basis of starting at
4 the principal medical office of the physician and
5 traveling to the hospital, using the transportation
6 means normally used by the physician to travel to
7 the hospital, and under the average conditions of
8 travel for the physician.

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