

RESOLUTION

Subject: Neutral Policy Language on Abortion

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Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, Kentucky providers who do not wish to participate directly or indirectly in an abortion procedure are not required to do so and are protected from discrimination in that decision¹; and

WHEREAS, pre- and post-abortion counseling are state-mandated and must include: alternatives to abortion², an in-person or a real-time visual telehealth meeting with the physician at least 24 hours prior to the procedure, and informed consent from the patient³; and

WHEREAS, the standards of the medical profession ensure that health care practitioners provide patients with accurate and unbiased information regarding the risks and benefits of their various treatment options; and

WHEREAS, the issue of support of or opposition to abortion is a matter for members of the Kentucky Medical Association (KMA) to decide individually, based on personal values or beliefs. This should not influence the care they provide to patients or their role in providing accurate and unbiased information to their patients; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Kentucky Medical Association rescind the policy that states abortion on demand be discouraged at any time⁴; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Kentucky Medical Association will take no action which may be construed as an attempt to alter or influence the personal views of individual physicians regarding abortion procedures.

¹KMA Policy: Pregnancy, Termination of. (Ref Comm Sub Res, 1973 HOD, p 882; Reaffirmed 2000, 2010)

²Requirement of Voluntary and Informed Written Consent for Abortion, Ky. 311.725 (1998)

³Informed Consent Given in "Individual Private Setting," Ky. 311.724 (2016)

⁴KMA Policy: Pregnancy, Termination of. (Ref Comm Sub Res, 1973 HOD, p 882; Reaffirmed 2000, 2010)