

PPGC Legislative Session Updates – Week of 5/10/2021

This past week, all abortion bills passed committee un-amended or with very minor amendments.

HB 578 Abortion Reversal Bill: Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) did a study around this in 2016 and it was brought up during a robust debate how ineffective the medication is. There were many doctors who still testified in favor. LDH presented white card testimony, and Rep. Amadee will work on new language. We might have a friendly doctor in LDH's Dr. Kantor. It is moving into the Senate next, but we need to come very clear with language about this experimental drug and its dangers. It is not scheduled for debate yet.

HB 357 & HB 423 Reporting Bills: Easily passed after minor debate. Rep. Emerson said inaccurate information about the bill, saying that it must comply with HIPAA and that the "information was confidential" which is not true. The hospital reporting would not necessarily have to comply with HIPAA, there are still privacy concerns.

HB 255 Interdiction Bill: To be heard on Tuesday at 9am in Civil Law and Procedure. We need a big push on this, we have testimony lined up with professors, physicians, but we are seeking people to read the drafted testimony into the record. **We need action alerts of opposition to this bill sent to Civil Law and Procedure.** We are trying to get them to defer and do a study resolution to suggest reforms to the bill. We can kill it, but we need support for opposition.

ACTION ITEMS:

HB 7 – Pink Tax, on the House floor TODAY 5/10/2021.

SB 133 (formerly SB 72) – Office of Women's Health will be heard in Senate Finance TODAY 5/10/2021.

HB 255 – Interdiction Bill, will be heard Tuesday 5/11/2021, send representatives in Civil Law and Procedure messages of opposition.

SB 61 – Crown Act, passed the Senate, moving forward to House of Representatives, date TBD, please send messages of support.

Other Bills:

Decriminalization of Sex Work: was heard on Tuesday, many emails and green cards. Deferred for now, with a study resolution. It was a very progressive bill to do so well, not a lot of discussion, we were well organized.

SB 156 Trans Youth in Sports Bill: passed the Senate and is moving forward to the House of Representatives. We need to watch this and fight!

Criminalization of STI: Failed/deferred.

Maternal Health/Doula/Birth Justice: Are all advancing.



Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast

Anti LGBTQI Housing Discrimination: Monday hearing.

We appreciate your support during this session. If you have any questions, please contact our team at la.publicaffairs@ppgulfcoast.org.