

The *Montana* Case

Case Name: *Planned Parenthood of Montana v. State of Montana*

Case Action: Appealed to Montana Supreme Court on October 19, 2021.

Significance: Whether the government can protect women considering abortion.



Background: The state of Montana has long maintained health-and-safety regulations to help protect women and their unborn children. In 2021, the legislature adjusted these protections to guarantee that women are not prescribed dangerous chemical abortion drugs without first being physically examined by a physician, do not undergo risky late-term abortions in the sixth month of pregnancy or beyond, and are offered an opportunity to see and hear an ultrasound of their child in their own womb. Montana's law also prevents its citizens from being forced to pay for elective abortions. Alliance Defending Freedom attorneys represent the state of Montana as co-counsel alongside the Montana Attorney General against Planned Parenthood of Montana, who is seeking to halt enforcement of these laws, even though previous court rulings demonstrate that the laws are presumed constitutional.

Key Points

- No one benefits more from substandard regulations than abortionists and their businesses.
- Planned Parenthood benefits financially from performing as many abortions as possible. They are claiming to speak for women in this case, but this is actually like the fox guarding the henhouse.
- Tragically, many women turn to abortion as a last resort, unaware of the resources available to them and the complications that can occur. They should be able to rely on medical providers to give them complete and accurate information.

Key Facts

- [Several states require](#) that a woman be shown, or at least offered, an image of her ultrasound before undergoing an abortion.
- An unborn baby at 20 weeks in the womb has a heartbeat, fingers and toes, [can feel pain](#), and can even hiccup. Viability may occur as early as 21 or 22 weeks.
- Chemical abortions often lead to complications, including heavy or prolonged bleeding, uterine rupture, serious infection, or the need for a surgical abortion. Requiring an examination before undergoing this procedure reduces health risks for the patient.
- [Most Americans](#) do not want taxpayer dollars to fund abortion.
- The law ensures that women have at least 24 hours to reflect and investigate after receiving critical information in person about abortion and available alternatives.

The Bottom Line: Women deserve health and safety. They don't forfeit that when they consider having an abortion.