



B. J. Walker, Commissioner

Georgia Department of Human Resources • Suite 29.250 • 2 Peachtree Street NW • Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142 • 404-651-6314

February 27, 2006

Dear Medical Provider:

House Bill 197, also known as the “Woman’s Right to Know” (WRTK) Act, was passed by the General Assembly during the 2005 Georgia Legislative Session, and signed by Governor Perdue on May 10, 2005. This Act requires that women who seek abortions be fully informed about relevant issues such as abortion alternatives, gestational age of the fetus including anatomical and physiological characteristics at two-week increments, abortion methods and associated medical risks, the possible detrimental psychological effect of abortion, and the potential medical risks of carrying a child to term (Code Sections 31-9A-3, 31-9A-4). In addition to the informed consent requirements, the legislation also modifies requirements related to parental notification for unemancipated minors.

The legislation directs DHR to develop and make available certain materials, to collect information from physicians, and to issue an annual report. This legislation also requires medical providers in licensed abortion facilities (i.e. abortions performed in DHR licensed hospitals and ambulatory surgical treatment centers) to report to the Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) the number of women who were provided this information. Annual reports are due by February 28th of each year. The first report required under this law is for calendar year 2006 and will be due by February 28, 2007. The WRTK Annual Reporting Form is enclosed for your review. You can access this form as well as instructions to submit your report online at <http://health.state.ga.us/wrtk/physicians.asp>.

For your convenience, an order form has been included for your facility to order a six-month supply of patient educational materials in English and Spanish. Please return the order form as soon as possible. These materials will be shipped directly to your facility as soon as the order form is received. You can also access and print patient educational materials by going to <http://health.state.ga.us/wrtk/>, by calling 404-657-2850, or via email at wrtkinfo@dhr.state.ga.us

To assist you in meeting the requirements of the WRTK Act, DHR has developed a CD which is being distributed to all licensed physicians and licensed hospitals and ambulatory surgical treatment centers. It contains all of the information medical providers will need to fulfill the WRTK requirements, including: a link to House Bill 197 (the Woman’s Right to Know Act), materials to share with patients, and information about reporting requirements.

We appreciate your assistance in assuring that all abortions performed at your facility are reported to DHR. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact DHR’s Division of Public Health by email or telephone as indicated above.

Sincerely,

B. J. Walker

BJW/sk

c: Stuart T. Brown, M.D.
Enclosures: WRTK Annual Reporting Form
WRTK Materials Reorder Form
WRTK Medical Providers Information CD

THE WOMAN'S RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

MATERIALS REORDER FORM

| | | | |
|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Requestor's Name: | | Date Requested: | |
| Name of Facility: | | | |
| Address: | | | |
| City: | | State: | Zip Code: |
| Phone Number: | | Email address: | |
| Patient Education Booklets | | | |
| The booklets can be downloaded from http://health.state.ga.us/wrtk/patienteducation.asp | | <i>Packs of 25</i> | <i>Indicate quantity if less than 25</i> |
| <i>Abortion: A Woman's Right to Know</i> | | ____ packs | |
| <i>El Aborto: El Derecho de una Mujer a Saber (Spanish)</i> | | ____ packs | |
| Please indicate SHIP TO information if DIFFERENT than above: | | | |
| Name: | | | |
| Address: (Note: P.O. Box not acceptable) | | | |
| City: | | State: | Zip Code: |
| Phone: | | Fax: | |
| For Internal DHR Use: | | | |
| Date faxed to Vendor: | | | |
| For Vender Use: | | | |
| Date shipped: | Quantity shipped: | Date documentation sent to DHR: | |



Submit this form to:

Martha Jackson, Public Health Consultant
 Georgia Department of Human Resources
 Division of Public Health
 Office of Infant & Child Health
 2 Peachtree Street, NW Suite 11-293
 Atlanta, GA 30303
 404-463-3987, 404-463-6729 (Fax)
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