

NASPAG Response to Texas Senate Bill 8

NASPAG's mission is to advocate for the reproductive well-being of children and adolescents and the provision of unrestricted, unbiased, and evidence-based practice of Pediatric and Adolescent Gynecology. The Texas Senate Bill 8 undermines the ability of Pediatric and Adolescent health care providers to align with NASPAG's mission. This bill impacts critical reproductive health care, which undoubtedly will disproportionately impact those with poorest resources and access to care. This is one of the most restrictive abortions bans in the US, making abortion illegal with no exceptions for rape, sexual abuse, incest, or fetal anomaly diagnosis.

We applaud and endorse the AAP, AAFP, ACOG, ACP, AOA and APA whose joint statement states: "Our organizations are firmly against any policies that limit the evidence-based practice of medicine, threaten the patient-physician relationship, and inhibit the delivery of safe, timely, and necessary comprehensive care, including reproductive health services and information."

In strong opposition to this bill, we also reiterate and endorse ACOG's statement: "Clinicians should be able to provide patient-centered, evidence-based care and counsel, and patients should be able to access the care and information they need without fear of retribution. Such legislative interference will ultimately discourage compassionate, skilled clinicians from practicing in the state of Texas, further compromising patient access to care."

NASPAG respects the trusted and sacred relationship between healthcare providers and their patients. We strongly believe that this relationship should not be subject to restrictions placed upon it by outside influences and that health care providers should have the ability to provide any and all healthcare they believe is in the best interests of their patient.