Tennessee

Tennessee has the fourth highest number of abortion restrictions in the country, along with 5 other states, but has enacted only 11 of 25 supportive policies. If the health of women and children is truly a concern for the state, policymakers’ time and effort would be better spent increasing the number of policies that are known to support women and children, rather than enacting harmful abortion restrictions.

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Abortion Restrictions

TRAP / PROVIDER RESTRICTIONS
1. Ambulatory surgical center standards imposed on facilities providing abortion
2. Hospital privileges or alternative arrangement required for abortion providers
3. Restriction on which health care providers may provide abortions

PROCEDURE RESTRICTIONS
4. Gestational age limit for abortion set by law
5. Medication abortion restrictions
6. Method abortion bans

COVERAGE / FINANCIAL RESTRICTIONS
7. Restrictions on abortion coverage in Medicaid
8. Restrictions on abortion coverage in private health insurance plans
9. Restrictions on abortion coverage in public employee health insurance plans
10. Restrictions on the allocation of public funds

QUESTIONS PATIENT DECISION-MAKING
11. Mandatory counseling prior to abortion
12. Parental involvement required before a minor obtains an abortion
13. Requirement to have or be offered an ultrasound
14. Waiting periods required between time of first appointment and abortion
15. Bans on the basis of sex, race, or fetal diagnosis

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Supportive Policies

IMPROVES ACCESS TO HEALTH
1. Affordable Care Act Medicaid expansion
2. Telephone, online, and/or administrative renewal of Medicaid/CHIP
3. Above average Title X funding per patient
4. Contraceptive parity law in place
5. IVF insurance or fertility preservation laws

SUPPORTS PREGNANT PEOPLE
6. Medicaid income limit for pregnant women is at least 200% of the federal poverty line
7. Expanded family/medical leave beyond the FMLA
8. Maternal mortality review board established
9. Reasonable accommodations for pregnant workers
10. Restrictions on shackling pregnant prisoners
11. Paid sick leave
12. Workplace lactation rights beyond the federal requirements

PROMOTES CHILDREN’S AND ADOLESCENTS’ HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND SAFETY
13. Children can enroll in CHIP with no waiting period
14. Physical education for elementary, middle, and high school
15. Sex education mandate
16. HIV education mandate
17. Broad eligibility criteria for early intervention services for children at risk of developmental delay
18. Districts must provide full-day kindergarten
19. Firearm safety law(s) designed to protect children

SUPPORTS FAMILIES’ FINANCIAL HEALTH
20. Families receiving TANF can keep child support collected on their behalf
21. State minimum wage is above the federal minimum
22. Income limit for childcare assistance is greater than 55% of state median income
23. No family cap policy or flat cash assistance grant
24. Individuals may be eligible for CCDF childcare subsidies if they are seeking employment

PROMOTES A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT
25. Worksites, restaurants, and bars must be smoke free

Indicators are updated through 2019 or the most recent year data was available.