



For Immediate Release
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SIMPLY NO DEBATE WHEN IT COMES TO COMPASSIONATE CARE
Coalition urges state to pass commonsense legislation

Madison, WI- While some reports have referred to the Compassionate Care for Rape Victims Bill (AB 377 & SB 129) as a controversial issue causing much debate, members of the Compassionate Care for Rape Victims Coalition would like to point out the facts and assure the public, the media and legislators that there is simply no debate.

Here are the facts about the bill:

- **The Compassionate Care for Rape Victims Bill would require that rape victims receive information about and access to emergency contraception (EC) in all Wisconsin emergency rooms. The American Medical Association guidelines require counseling and the provision of EC to rape victims as the accepted standard of care.**
- **EC is accepted as a safe and effective way to prevent a pregnancy, and if taken within 12 hours is 99.5% effective in preventing pregnancy. EC has no effect on an existing pregnancy.**
- **Only two organizations in the state are opposing this bill: Family Action, Inc. and Pro-Life Wisconsin. Both groups oppose all forms of birth control.**
- **The following health-related professional associations and organizations have expressed their support for emergency contraception:**
 - **US Food & Drug Administration**
 - **American Medical Association**
 - **American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists**
 - **American Academy of Pediatrics**
 - **American College of Emergency Physicians**
 - **American College of Nurse Midwives**
 - **Society of Adolescent Health**
 - **American Public Health Association**
 - **World Health Organization**
 - **Association of Reproductive Health Professionals**
- **The state Senate passed the Compassionate Care for Rape Victims Bill by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 27 to 6 in May.**
- **82% of Wisconsin voters support Compassionate Care for Rape Victims legislation and want to ensure that rape victims are provided the opportunity to prevent pregnancy following sexual assault.**

For more information regarding Compassionate Care for Rape Victims, please visit: www.supportwomenshealth.org.

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American College of Nurse Midwives - WI Chapter • Brown County Coalition for Women's Health • Chippewa Valley Citizens for Women's Health • Citizens for Women's Health, Winnebago County • Community Advocates • Eau Claire County Coordinated Community Response Team • Friends of Abused Families, Inc. of Washington County • League of Women Voters of Wisconsin • Medical Students for Choice • NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin • National Association of Social Workers, WI Chapter • Options Fund, Inc • PAVE: People Against a Violent Environment, Beaver Dam • PAVE: Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment, Madison • Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin • Reach Counseling Services, Menasha • Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice WI • Republicans for Choice • Sexual Assault Treatment Center • Task Force on Family Violence • The Healing Center • United Council of UW Students • Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health • Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care • Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence • Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault • Wisconsin NOW • Wisconsin Women's Network Reproductive Rights Task Force • Women's Medical Fund