

Exhibit No. S
Date: 3/25/15
Bill No. HB 587

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Good morning Mr. Chairman and committee members, my name is Michelle Reimer. I am a nurse and the Executive Director of Clear Choice Clinic in Kalispell. Clear Choice is a AAAHC accredited medical clinic specializing in pregnancy diagnosis and support services. I have been caring for women facing unintended pregnancies since 2007. I am here today to support House Bill 587, not because of my position on abortion, but because of my concern for the physical health and well-being of the women of Montana.

It has been my experience that, after abortion, women are often hesitant to seek medical follow up in the event of a complication. I have received numerous calls from women suffering complications from a medical abortion, asking for help from our clinic because they weren't willing or able to drive to the clinic that provided their abortion. If they aren't willing or able to return to a provider they *know*, how much greater will their hesitation be to seek help from someone they *don't know*?

It is not unreasonable for a woman to expect that her physician would follow the drug manufacturer's guidelines for Mifeprex, also known as RU486...the abortion pill. The manufacturer recommends, and the FDA has approved, Mifeprex as an "...early option for non-surgical abortion in the first 49 days of pregnancy." Today in Montana, Mifeprex is being dispensed to terminate pregnancies up to 70 days gestation. Deviating from the manufacturer's 49 day limitation increases the risk of an incomplete abortion, requiring surgical intervention – a complication patients are ill-equipped to identify. How much bleeding is too much? Without a physician available for follow up, a woman may not have that question answered until it's too late.