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## **PLEASE VOTE NO ON HOUSE BILL 2467 & SENATE BILL 1594!!!**

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**House Bill 2467** (Welch-D) and **Senate Bill 1594** (Sims-D) seek to repeal the Parental Notice of Abortion Act. This law, which has been in statute since 1995 and enforced since 2013, requires a parent or legal guardian be notified when a minor seeks an abortion. The law includes a judicial waiver for those children who have been physically or sexually abused.

### **REPEALING A REASONABLE AND CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARD**

- Every state bordering Illinois – Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri and Iowa – require at least parental notification.
- The Illinois Supreme Court (unanimously) and the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals have both found the law to be constitutional.

### **REPEALING A LAW WHICH HAS DEMONSTRABLY SAVED LIVES**

- Illinois Department of Public Health statistics show a decrease in abortions by minors since 2013, when 1,762 minors had an abortion.
- In 2014, that number dropped to 1,255; in 2015, 1,226; in 2016, 1,037; and in 2017, the most recent year for which data is available, 1,003.
  - This is a 57% decline in the number of abortions performed on minors.
  - In the same time frame, abortions performed by adults has only declined 15%.

### **CUTTING PARENTS OUT**

- A repeal would be contrary to the legal and moral right of parents and legal guardians to care for their children.
  - Under current law, it is illegal for minors to use an indoor tanning bed. Before that prohibition was implemented on Jan. 1, 2014, minors between the ages of 14 and 17 had to have parental consent.
  - Under current law, it is illegal for a minor to get a tattoo or body piercing without parental consent.
  - Minors cannot vote, buy cigarettes, serve in the military or purchase lottery tickets, but they will be able to get an abortion at any time, for any reason, without their parents' knowledge.
- Since the law took effect, there have been no reported incidents of the abuse or neglect of any minor whose parents were informed of her intention to obtain an abortion.

The Parental Notice of Abortion Act is a broadly-supported, reasonable safeguard that allows parents to properly exercise love and care for their children. Our government should be in the business of supporting families and assisting parents and legal guardians, not undermining them.