

**FLORIDA FINANCIAL IMPACT ESTIMATING CONFERENCE  
SUMMARY OF INITIATIVE FINANCIAL INFORMATION STATEMENT**

**Amendment to Limit Government Interference with Abortion (23-07)**

Florida law currently prevents most abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected. The proposed amendment states that “no law shall prohibit, penalize, delay, or restrict abortion before viability or when necessary to protect the patient’s health, as determined by the patient’s healthcare provider.” If the proposed amendment is adopted, there would be significantly more abortions in Florida each year. Additional statutes and regulations could likely be challenged as unconstitutional, including, but not limited to:

- **The Parental Consent for Abortion Act**, Fla.Stat. 390.01114, which requires physicians to obtain written consent from a parent before performing an abortion on a minor;
- **The Physician requirement**, Fla.Stat. 390.0111(2), which allows only licensed physicians to perform abortions; and
- **Restrictions on taxpayer funding for abortions**, Fla.Stat. 390.0111(15), which restricts the use of public funds to subsidize abortions, with exceptions for rape, incest, and medical necessity.

It is probable that the state government and courts will face additional litigation costs that go beyond that which would occur in the amendment’s absence. Because specific litigation costs are dependent on a multitude of case-specific factors that manifest when particular cases are filed and tried, the precise amount of this increase in litigation expenses cannot be determined at this time.

Further, it is probable that there will be litigation challenging the constitutionality of Florida’s funding restrictions. Should those statutes be found unconstitutional under the proposed amendment, the state would incur higher costs subsidizing more abortions than those that qualify for public funding under current law. There are likely to be cost savings to the Health and Human Services budget as a result of the passage of the amendment, however potential costs, savings, and any offsets depend on the outcome of litigation that is likely to be complex.

While the amendment would result in an aggregate statewide cost savings from a reduction in the provision of educational services due to fewer live births, the effects of the proposed amendment could exacerbate financial constraints for individual school districts already experiencing a decline in student enrollment.

The majority of the Conference agrees that there would be a loss to state and local tax collections beginning immediately and extending over time. In some of the counties that are already experiencing financial constraints, the impact to local tax collections may be exacerbated. The timing and magnitude of those impacts cannot be estimated with precision. The impact is therefore indeterminate.

Because the fiscal impact of increased abortions on state and local revenues and costs cannot be estimated with precision, the total impact of the proposed amendment is indeterminate.