



## Oregon | RANKING 48

Oregon has an abysmal record on life, failing to protect women, the unborn, the sick, and the dying. Oregon was the first state in the nation to legalize suicide by physician, does not mandate informed consent or parental involvement before abortion, does not recognize an unborn child as a potential victim of homicide or assault, and does not limit destructive embryo research or human cloning.

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### **ABORTION**

- Oregon does not have an informed consent law, an ultrasound requirement, a parental involvement law for minors seeking abortion, abortion facility regulations, or a prohibition on anyone other than a licensed physician performing an abortion.
- The state has an enforceable abortion reporting law but does not require the reporting of information to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The measure applies to both surgical and nonsurgical abortions and requires abortion providers to report known complications.
- Oregon taxpayers fund “medically necessary” abortions for women eligible for state medical assistance for general care. This requirement essentially equates to funding abortion-on-demand in light of the U.S. Supreme Court’s broad definition of “health” in the context of abortion.

### **LEGAL RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN AND NEWLY BORN INFANTS**

- Oregon law does not affirmatively protect infants born alive during attempted abortions.
- Oregon law does not recognize an unborn child as a potential victim of homicide or assault.
- It allows a wrongful death (civil) action when a viable unborn child is killed through a negligent or criminal act.
- Oregon has a “Baby Moses” law, establishing a safe haven for mothers to legally leave their infants at designated places and ensuring that the infants receive appropriate care and protection.
- It funds drug treatment programs for pregnant women and newborns.

### **BIOETHICS LAWS**

- Oregon maintains no laws regarding human cloning, destructive embryo research, or fetal experimentation; nor does it promote ethical forms of research.
- Further, it does not regulate assisted reproductive technologies or human egg harvesting.

## **PATIENT PROTECTION LAWS**

- Oregon permits suicide by physician under statutorily specified circumstances but prohibits the sale of “suicide kits.”
- In 2019, Oregon passed legislation that created an exception to the waiting period for patients who had less than two days to live.

## **HEALTHCARE FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE**

### **PARTICIPATION IN ABORTION AND CONTRACEPTION**

- A physician is not required to participate in or give advice about abortion if he or she discloses this election to the patient. A hospital employee or medical staff member is not required to participate in abortions if he or she has notified the hospital of this election.
- A private hospital is not required to admit women for an abortion procedure and will not be liable for refusal if the hospital has adopted such a policy and notifies the woman of it. A private hospital that has not adopted a policy against admitting women for abortion procedures has to admit women “subject to the same conditions” as any other patient seeking hospital admission.
- Health plans that provide prescription coverage must also cover prescription contraceptives. Religious employers may refuse coverage if their primary purpose is the inculcation of religious values, if they primarily employ and serve people with the same values, and if they are nonprofit entities under federal law.

### **PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH HARMFUL TO HUMAN LIFE**

- Oregon currently provides no protection for the rights of healthcare providers who conscientiously object to participation in human cloning, destructive embryo research, or other forms of medical research that violate a provider’s moral or religious beliefs.

## **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER *ROE* IS OVERTURNED?**

- Abortion will be legal throughout pregnancy.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OREGON

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## WOMEN'S PROTECTION PROJECT PRIORITIES

- Enhanced penalties and enforcement mechanisms for the state's abortion-related laws
  - Women's Right to Know Act with reflection period
  - Coercive Abuse Against Mothers Prevention Act
  - Women's Health Protection Act (abortion clinic regulations, emergency transfer and admission provisions)
  - Drug-Induced Abortion Information and Reporting Act
  - Parental Notification for Abortion Act
  - Child Protection Act
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## INFANTS' PROTECTION PROJECT PRIORITIES

- Unborn Infants Dignity Act
  - Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act
  - Perinatal Hospice Information Act
  - Born-Alive Infant Protection Act
  - Unborn Infants Wrongful Death Act (for a pre-viable child)
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## PATIENT PROTECTION ACT PRIORITIES

- Suicide by Physician Ban Act
  - Joint Resolution Opposing Suicide by Physician
  - Charlie Gard Act (formerly the Life Sustaining Care Act)
  - Pain Management Education Act
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## ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

### ABORTION

- Defunding the Abortion Industry and Advancing Women's Health Act
- Federal Abortion-Mandate Opt-Out Act

### LEGAL RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION FOR THE UNBORN

- Crimes Against the Unborn Child Act
- Pregnant Woman's Protection Act

### BIOETHICS

- Human Cloning Prohibition Act
- Destructive Embryo Research Act
- Prohibition on Public Funding of Human Cloning and Destructive Embryo Research Act

### END OF LIFE

- Repeal of law permitting suicide by physician

### HEALTHCARE FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE

- Healthcare Freedom of Conscience Act