Reproductive Health Bills Summary for the 2020 Florida Legislative Session

HB265/SB404 – Abortion (Parental Consent):
This bill requires that girls under age 18 get notarized approval from a parent or guardian or, otherwise, seek a hearing and gain consent from a judge before terminating a pregnancy. The bill was opposed by medical professionals and will delay abortion access leading to more invasive, expensive and harder to access procedures.  
(Top priority - Oppose) Passed by both chambers  
Takes effect July 1, 2020.

HB1059/SB1634 - Parental Rights:
This bill covered many issues including parental rights relating to a minor child’s education, upbringing and healthcare. Overall, there was concern because the bill would prevent young people from receiving the services they need, including wellness exams and reproductive health care. Additionally, the bill legitimizes several practices that are poor public health policy including parents choosing not to vaccinate their children.  
(Top priority - Oppose) The bill died in Senate Rules Committee.

HB1365/SB1864 - Vulnerable Child Protection Act:  
This bill makes it a felony for doctors to provide minors with hormone therapy, or to perform sex reassignment surgery, with a potential maximum penalty of a $10,000 fine or 15 years in prison.  
(Oppose) Died in House Health Policy Committee.

HB1259/SB852 - Incarcerated Pregnant Women:  
This bill, also known as the Tammy Jackson Act, ensures that pregnant incarcerated women are transported to an appropriate medical facility without delay, given proper medical care, and not placed in restrictive housing involuntarily while in labor. The legislation also sets critical standards for the treatment of pregnant incarcerated women by aiming to create a safer, more respectful environment for women behind bars.  
(Support) Passed by both chambers  
Takes effect July 1, 2020.

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