

Choose a section **Editorials - January 26, 2003**

Lives can't wait: NH should ban partial-birth abortion

A PRO-LIFE New Hampshire legislator has been told it is better to "wait until next year" for a bill to ban the pernicious practice known as partial-birth abortion. This late-term procedure involves partially delivering the live baby and then killing it by means that are violent, to say the least.

Indeed, certain "pro-choice" forces don't like to talk much about this, other than to insist that it is "rare" and should not be regulated by the state. How rare is very much in dispute. As for regulation by the state, we can't think of anything more demanding of regulation.

Which is why it is troubling to read that Rep. Harriet Cady, R-Deerfield, has been told to "wait until next year" for her bill. Rep. Cady told the House Rules Committee that she is ill and may not be around for next year. She might have added that some of the babies her bill would protect might also not be around for next year.

One technical problem with the Cady bill is that it was filed after the deadline for new legislation. Late bills are regularly accepted when the powers-that-be wish it. Even so, it would seem to us that this could be worked around by amending another piece of legislation to include this worthwhile effort. One such bill apparently up for consideration again this session has to do with parental notification.

Parental notification, which is the law in many states, simply requires that a parent or adult guardian of a minor girl be notified when that girl seeks an abortion. Young people need their parents' written permission for all manner of things much less serious and invasive than abortion. Yet the pro-abortionists here, with support of former Gov. Jeanne Shaheen, have adamantly refused to allow it.

That may be why, even though abortion rates are said to be leveling off or dropping elsewhere, the abortion-performing Feminist Health Center in Portsmouth reported last week that it has had quite an increase in its grisly business in the last year.

We would hope that these two long overdue pieces of legislation could receive a fair hearing and a favorable vote from the Legislature. Gov. Craig Benson, the pro-life governor, should be counted on to help with the fight. "Wait until next year" should not be the answer here.

[Return to Front Page](#)

*The information on this site is copyrighted and cannot be reused
without the permission of The Union Leader.*

**News Archive**

Articles from The Union Leader and New Hampshire Sunday News, September 1989 to the present, are now available online through [NewsBank](#).

NEWS

- NH politics
- NH primary
- War on terror
- Granite Status
- State House Dome
- City Hall
- John Clayton

SPORTS

- Monarchs
- Joe Sullivan
- Vin Sylvia
- Jim Fennell

FEATURES

- Weather
- Our Gourmet
- Verizon Wireless
- Nature Talks
- John Harrigan
- 40 Under 40

