

# Mike Pence: Alienates Women With Abortion Restrictions, and Alienates GOP With Medicaid Expansion

## Presumed GOP Nominee for Vice President Gov. Mike Pence on Health Care



### Governor Mike Pence on Health Care

- One of the more conservative politicians in US politics, Mike Pence has a mixed record in health care.
- He is a staunch pro-life politician. Pence has repeatedly attempted to defund Planned Parenthood. Since he was elected governor in 2012, **he has signed abortion restriction legislation every year since he has been in office.**
  - He came under fire for a bill which restricted women from getting abortions due to genetically determined disabilities, and place penalties on doctors who perform procedures in violation of the regulation. The Federal District Court of Southern Indiana placed a preliminary injunction a few days before the law was set to go into effect
- Pence supports repealing the Affordable Care Act but expanded Medicaid in his state. In 2015, his Healthy Indiana 2.0 plan was approved by the Obama Administration.

### Medicaid Expansion

- Pence expanded Medicaid as governor. His Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0 has provisions that has made the expansion a model for other conservative states
  - Relies heavily on **Health Savings Accounts**
  - Allows the state to **prevent adults above the federal poverty level from re-enrolling** in coverage for six months after being dis-enrolled for not paying premiums
- Pence likened the Supreme Court's decision upholding the Affordable Care act to the September 11 terrorist attacks in a closed door meeting. He later apologized in a statement to POLITICO



### Biomedical Research

- In 2013, Pence worked to launch the Indiana Biosciences Research Institute to bring jobs to Indiana
- Indiana University sued the county prosecutor over his 2016 abortion law, saying that the law restricted academic freedom by criminalizing the transfer/collection of fetal tissue for research

Source: Merrit Kennedy, "Indiana Governor Signs New Abortion Restrictions Into Law", NPR, March 25, 2016; Kate Nocera & David Nather, "House Defunds Planned Parenthood" Politico, February 18, 2011; "Medicaid Expansion in Indiana", Kaiser Family Foundation, February 3, 2015; Monica Davey & Michael Barbaro, "How Mike Pence Became a Conservative Hero: Unwavering Opposition to Abortion," New York Times, July 16, 2016; David Nather, "With Pence Pick Trump Just Made Women's Health a Top-Tier Election Issue", PBS Newshour, July 16, 2016; Alex Auda Samora, Maria Darron, Noun Project.

# Governor Mike Pence Signed the Nation's Most Restrictive Abortion Regulations

## Mike Pence on Reproductive Health



### Mike Pence Repeatedly Attempted to Defund Planned Parenthood

- Pence originally sponsored a bill attempting to defund Planned Parenthood in 2007. He introduced the legislation to restrict Title X federal funding in three legislative sessions in a row. His legislation did not pass until 2011 as an amendment.
- In 2011, Pence signed Indiana's House Bill 1210 defunding Planned Parenthood. A federal judge blocked the law from going into effect, but the legislature continued to slash funding for the organization leading to closures.
- In 2015, Indiana's Scotts County experienced an HIV outbreak, but Planned Parenthood with the only HIV testing facility in the area had closed due to cuts in 2013, exacerbating the lack of health services.

### Governor Mike Pence Signed the Nation's Most Restrictive Abortion Regulations

- As governor, Pence has signed multiple abortion restriction bills. Elizabeth Nash of the Guttmacher Institute called the Indiana legislation "**the most restrictive of these types of abortion laws**"
- In 2016, he signed a bill that
  1. Criminalized a procedure motivated due to factors such as sex or race, and **banned abortion in the case of genetic abnormalities that could lead to disability**
  2. Required the information a provider must give, and the counseling a woman must receive
  3. **Required that women pay for the cremation or interment** of the aborted fetus
  4. Finally, the bill **holds doctors legally liable** for such abortions.
- The legislation sparked a campaign called "Periods for Pence" which encouraged women to give the governor's office updates on their menstrual cycle.
- The Federal District Court for Southern India issued a preliminary injunction against the legislation a few days before the law was set to take effect.



**It went broader than any of us thought a law like this could possibly go.**

– Elizabeth Nash, Guttmacher Institute

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