

VIRGINIA SOCIETY FOR HUMAN LIFE

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US. District Court Allows Chemical Abortion Drugs in the Mail

On Monday, in a dreadful development, US District Court Judge removed the FDA requirement for an in-person doctor's visit before being given chemical abortion drugs. Under the FDA's "Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy" (REMS), only FDA-approved entities can distribute mifepristone, one of the two-drugs that make up the medication abortion technique.

When the FDA approved mifepristone as an abortion method, REMS restrictions were put in place because women face potentially life-threatening complications that have been associated with the use of the drug. An FDA record of nearly two dozen deaths and thousands of complications, including "adverse events" such as serious infections, severe hemorrhage, and the rupture of previously undiscovered ectopic pregnancies, has proved that the REMS restrictions are necessary to protect women.

This decision is even more alarming here in Virginia because the new law in Virginia allows non doctors, nurse practitioners, to perform abortions. This now means that women will be prescribed these potentially dangerous drugs over the phone or get them through the mail! **"By lifting this critical requirement Virginia's women and their unborn children are going to be subjected to dire circumstances that will kill more unborn babies and puts more and more women at greater risk."** said Olivia Gans Turner, **"Once again abortion groups will celebrate being able to do more abortions and babies and their mothers will pay the price."**

National Right to Life also condemned the decision. **"We are dismayed at Judge Chuang's decision to suspend the FDA requirement,"** said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. **"The end goal of the abortion industry is to have the drugs sent through the mail making possible 'Do-It-Yourself' abortions. However, this is not some benign 'take-two-aspirin' treatment. Mifepristone abortions put at risk perfectly healthy mothers who are pregnant with perfectly healthy babies,"** said Tobias. **"No woman's life should be placed at risk because abortion activists are trying to score political points."**

Recently a letter was sent to the FDA Commissioner Steven Hahn, MD from 121 Representatives and 36 Senators urging "robust" enforcement of the regulations. You can read the letter here: <https://www.hydesmith.senate.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/041420%20-%20MOC%20Letter%20to%20FCA%20on%20Chemical%20Abortion%20During%20Coronavirus%20-%20final.pdf>

Virginia Society for Human Life is the oldest state-wide pro-life organization in the nation with chapters throughout the Commonwealth supporting life issues and the Virginia affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee.

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