

## Massachusetts

### **State mandated information**

The State of Massachusetts requires a physician to inform a woman in writing of: (1) the stages of development of the “unborn child”; (2) the type of abortion procedure the physician intends on using; (3) the possible complications of the procedure physician intends on using in addition to the complications of abortion in general; (4) the availability of the abortion alternatives; and (5) the right to refuse an abortion without forfeiting right to public assistance.

### **State prepared materials**

The State of Massachusetts does not require a woman to view state prepared materials prior to an abortion.

### **Mandatory delay requirement**

The State of Massachusetts imposes a mandatory 24 hour delay before a woman can have an abortion.

Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. ch. 112, § 12S (Enacted 1974, Amended 1980).

In 1987, a court held that both the mandatory delay and the requirement that the written consent materials include a description of fetal development were unconstitutional. Planned Parenthood League of Mass., Inc. v. Bellotti, No. 80-1166-MA, 1986 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 22919, at \*29 (D. Mass. Nov. 4, 1987).