

South Carolina

State-mandated information

The State of South Carolina requires the physician performing the abortion or an allied health professional working in conjunction with the physician of the procedure and by the physician who is to perform the abortion to inform a woman of : (1) the probable gestational age of the fetus at the time of the abortion; (2) a written statement that states, “You have the right to view printed materials by the State of South Carolina which describe fetal development, list agencies that offer alternatives to abortion, and describe medical assistance benefits which may be available for prenatal care, childbirth and neonatal care.”

State prepared materials

Under South Carolina law, a woman has the right to view state prepared materials before having an abortion. These materials include: (1) a list of public and private agencies that assistance during pregnancy, childbirth and while child is dependent including the services they offer and contact information; (2) information regarding the probable anatomical and physiological characteristics of the fetus at two-week gestational increments from the beginning of pregnancy to birth; (3) the principal types of abortion and their respective risks; (4) information regarding medical assistance benefits and where to go for help; and (5) child support collection help.

Mandatory delay requirement

The State of South Carolina imposes a mandatory 1 hour delay before a woman can have an abortion.¹

S.C. Code Ann. §§ 44-41-300, -310 to -380 (Enacted 1995).

¹ The 1 hour mandatory delay does not apply when either: (1) the state prepared materials have been mailed to the woman; or (2) the woman obtains the state prepared materials at the county health department and the woman verifies in writing that those materials were received by her more than one hour prior to the abortion, that she has been informed of the probable gestational age of the fetus and of her right to view state prepared materials.