

SENATE No. 612

By Ms. McGovern, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 612) of Patricia McGovern for legislation to clarify certain medical research procedures. Health Care.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-three.

AN ACT CLARIFYING CERTAIN MEDICAL RESEARCH PROCEDURES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Clause (a) I of section twelve J of chapter one
2 hundred twelve of the General Laws, as added by chapter four
3 hundred twenty-one of the Acts of 1974, is hereby amended
4 by striking out the third paragraph and inserting in place
5 thereof the following paragraph: —

6 For the purposes of this section, the word fetus shall in-
7 clude an embryo or a neonate which has been aborted for
8 the purpose of terminating its life. A fetus is a live fetus for
9 the purposes of this section when, in the best medical judg-
10 ment of a physician, it shows evidence of life as determined
11 by the same medical standards as are used in determining
12 evidence of life in a spontaneously aborted fetus at approxi-
13 mately the same stage of gestational development.

1 SECTION 2. Clause (a) IV of section twelve J of chapter
2 one hundred twelve of the General Laws, as added by chapter
3 four hundred twenty-one of the Acts of 1974, is hereby amend-
4 ed by striking out the second sentence.

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