

# Judge's Ruling Puts Missouri Women in Danger of an Unregulated Abortion Industry



On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, Jackson County Judge Jerri J Zhang, again, ruled that Missouri's health and safety standards protecting women who are having an abortion violate the November 2024 Pro-Abortion Amendment 3.

## Health and safety standards removed through the court by Judge Zhang:

- Follow all acceptable sterilization standards for surgery instruments and equipment. **(GONE)**
- Abortion provider is to perform a sufficient examination of the patient to determine the unborn child's gestational age, identify preexisting medical or other complications and detect any factors which could influence the choice of the procedure, anesthesia or preoperative or postoperative management. **(GONE)**
- That ultrasounds only be performed by doctors or licensed medical technicians. **(GONE)**
- Have emergency trays equipped to treat seizures, bleedings, anaphylactic shock, respiratory arrest, and cardiac arrest. **(GONE)**
- Have emergency drugs, oxygen, and intravenous fluid in a surgical procedure room along with a manual breathing bag and suction machine. **(GONE)**
- Requirement that facilities for surgical abortions have adequate scrub up facilities, that the sterilizing room be equipped with a steam sterilizer and that there are sufficient surgical instruments sterilized and available for each patient who presents herself for an abortion. **(GONE)**

## Other statutes removed through the court by Judge Zhang:

- **Statute Preventing Coerced Abortions:** Missouri law prohibits abortion "unless and until the physician has obtained from the woman her voluntary and informed consent given freely and without coercion." **(GONE)**  
Judge Zhang threw out this important provision and prevents its enforcement, allowing abortion providers to bypass essential consent standards.
- **Statute Requiring Emergency Plans for Complications:** Abortion providers are required to maintain written emergency protocols to treat serious complications like hemorrhaging or sepsis. These safeguards are especially critical given that 1 in 9 women who take abortion pills face complications requiring emergency care. **(GONE)**  
Judge Zhang threw out these emergency protections.
- **Statute Giving the Right to an Ultrasound:** Missouri law gives women the right to receive an ultrasound, to see and hear the heartbeat of her baby and view a booklet of the developmental stages of her unborn child before an abortion. This ultrasound protects a woman and helps identify serious medical risks like ectopic pregnancies. **(GONE)**  
Judge Zhang's ruling will allow the abortion industry to pressure women into irreversible decisions and create a situation where vital medical information is missed when taking care of a woman.

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## On July 3, 2025:

Attorney General Andrew Bailey has appealed Judge Zhang's ruling. He stated, "We respectfully but firmly disagree with the Court's decision to once again block the enforcement of Missouri's duly enacted health and safety regulations," the statement read. "These requirements were designed to ensure that women receive care in sanitary conditions from qualified professionals, with emergency safeguards in place."

Planned Parenthood has a history in Missouri of being shut down by the Department of Health and Senior Services. Inspections found dried blood on equipment, rusty equipment, expired drugs and improper records on staffing.



Missouri Right to Life thanks Attorney General Andrew Bailey  
for fighting to protect women, children and babies.

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