

Republicans Reach Across the Aisle to Address Abortion

“Republicans are spearheading the effort to make abortion legislation more nonpartisan,” says Senator Marco Rubio.

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Republicans in the US Senate are attempting to bridge an ideological divide to pass comprehensive abortion legislation.

Senators Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Mitt Romney (R-UT) formulated a bill addressing abortion in a manner they said “could be accepted by liberals and conservatives alike.” Their plan incorporates provisions that they say will make the abortion process more informed and educated. One such provision is the idea of crisis pregnancy centers, which Rubio said are intended to create a less controversial version of Planned Parenthood.

Rubio’s main criticism of Planned Parenthood is that it draws public funds for the support of a “morally ambiguous practice.” He said that from both an economic and moral standpoint, it “doesn’t make sense for taxpayers to subsidize abortions”.

Rubio’s crisis centers would be under strict regulation by the United States government—more so than Planned Parenthood, which currently must abide by Trump Administration executive orders to receive federal funding, but is not subject to intensive oversight. Additionally, they would refrain from requesting government funds. Instead, the clinics would be funded by private investors. He says he is not willing to compromise on this, even though pro-choice senators were wary of these provisions.

“Many democrats have flouted these pregnancy crisis centers as a pro-life endeavor, but they are not making an effort to propose anything else,” said Rubio.

“We don’t agree with Planned Parenthood. We need a more streamlined abortion process and we’re not going to get that from Planned Parenthood,” said Rubio. “We need a plan that fits the 21st century.”

His collaborator, Senator Romney, emphasized his desire to reinforce three unalienable rights granted in the Declaration of Independence: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Romney said that education would reinforce these rights, preventing denial of life through abortion without thorough decisionmaking.

“Establishing crisis pregnancy centers teaches the true facts of the situation to women facing unplanned pregnancies that makes abortion more safe, more standardized, and more government regulated,” said Romney.

The senators also said that their coalition was not feeling a reciprocated effort from the other side of the aisle.

“The pro-choice senators are unwilling to cross party lines. They’re sticking to their own agendas despite the fact that we’re all here to work together,” said Rubio.

Democrats took offense to this idea, and Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA) implied that the GOP was not being as neutral as it claimed.

“The idea that we’re not being bipartisan is just wrong. We totally support their educational goals, but how could we agree with charging a woman with first degree murder for having an abortion?” said Harris.

“They could conceivably vote for our proposals. I have not seen the same effort from their movement,” added Romney.



Senator Rubio defends his idea to replace Planned Parenthood.