

Both sides prepare for fight after South Dakota's abortion ban

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) — A near-total ban on abortions in South Dakota has been signed into law, a measure the governor called a “direct frontal assault” on the U.S. Supreme Court decision to legalize the practice 33 years ago.

Supporters and opponents of abortion rights had been gearing up for a showdown even before Gov. Mike Rounds added his signature to the bill Monday and both sides expected a lengthy battle.

“We fully intend to challenge this law,” said Kate Looby, state director of Planned Parenthood, which operates the state’s only abortion clinic. “It’s just a question of how.”

The bill would make it a crime for doctors to perform an abortion unless the procedure was necessary to save the woman’s life. It would make no exception for cases of rape or incest but such victims could get emergency contraception.

Under the new law, doctors could get up to five years in prison for performing an illegal abortion.

A judge is likely to suspend the abortion ban before it is due to take effect July 1, which means it would not change state policy unless the case gets all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and the state wins.

The Legislature passed the bill last month after supporters argued that the recent appointment of conservative justices John Roberts and Samuel Alito have made the Supreme Court more likely to overturn 1973’s Roe v. Wade.

While Rounds said he personally believes it would be better to chip away at abortion one step at a time rather than directly confront Roe v. Wade, he said many abortion opponents think otherwise.

“Personally I think this court will be more interested in looking at different aspects of Roe v. Wade rather than the direct frontal assault, but we’ll never know unless someone tries,” Rounds said.

Rob Regier, executive director of the South Dakota Family Policy Council, commended Rounds’ decision. “His signature marks the beginning of a renewed effort to abolish abortion in our country,” Regier said.

Some other states are considering similar bans on abortion, and the South Dakota legislation will have an impact in other states, said Nancy Keenan, president of

NARAL Pro-Choice America.

“We see that this is about more than just South Dakota. It’s about the country,” Keenan said. “The bottom line in all of it is elections matter.”

Planned Parenthood has not yet decided whether to challenge the measure in court or to seek a statewide public vote in November. A referendum would either repeal the abortion ban or delay a court challenge to the legislation.

“Obviously, we’re very disappointed that Gov. Rounds has sided on the side of politics rather than on the side of the women of South Dakota to protect their health and safety,” Looby said.

If the bill is put to a statewide vote, the battle is likely to be nasty, said Thelma Underberg, National Abortion Rights Action League Pro-Choice South Dakota executive director.

“It could be an ugly campaign,” Underberg said.

In the meantime, Planned Parenthood will remain open to provide services that include family planning, emergency contraception and safe and legal abortions, Looby said.

About 800 abortions are performed each year in South Dakota. Planned Parenthood has said other women cross state lines to reach clinics.

The abortion bill earlier this month passed the House 50-18 and the Senate by 23-12. For the most part, Republicans have dominated the Statehouse since the 1970s.

State Democratic Rep. Pat Haley voted against the measure, saying that while he opposes abortion he could not vote for the bill because it contains an exception only for the life of a woman.

“Not allowing an exception for rape, incest and the health of the mother is a radical position,” he said. “Most of the people who have talked to me about this think that this is a very foolish piece of legislation, and most of those people are pro-life.”

But Leslee Unruh, founder of the Alpha Center that provides counseling to pregnant women and those who have had abortion, said the governor’s decision to sign the bill is a victory for women.

“We finally have been heard,” said Unruh. “We are so excited. We’re ordering lobster and having a party. We are thrilled.”

Editor’s note: Associated Press writer Joe Kafka contributed to this report.

On the Net:
Planned Parenthood: <http://www.plannedparenthood.org>

South Dakota Family Policy Council: <http://www.sdfamily.org>

TV LISTINGS

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WEEKDAYS						MARCH 7 - MARCH 13								
	6 AM	6:30	7 AM	7:30	8 AM	8:30	9 AM	9:30	10 AM	10:30	11 AM	11:30		
KLBY/ABC 4 6	Good Morning Kansas		Good Morning America				Martha		The View		Millionaire	News		
KSNK/NBC 8 8	News Cont'd		Today						Live With Regis and Kelly		Paid Program	Paid Program		
KBSL/CBS 12 11	News Cont'd		News		The Early Show		The 700 Club		The Price Is Right		The Young and the Restless			
K15CG 2	BBC World	Body Electric	Caillou	Mister Rogers	Beren Bears	Cliff Pup	Big Big World	Dragon Tales	Sesame Street		Teletubbies	Barney-Friends		
ESPN 28	Sports-Center	Varied	SportsCenter		SportsCenter		Sports-Center	Varied	SportsCenter		Basketball	Varied		
USA 37	Walker, Texas Ranger		JAG		The District		Nash Bridges		Nash Bridges		Walker, Texas Ranger			
TBS 38	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Saved by Bell	Dawson's Creek		Movie				Becker	Becker		
WGN 39	Changing	Believer Voice	Happy Days	Happy Days	Hillbilities	Hillbilities	Rockford Files		Matlock		Magnum, P.I.			
TNT 40	Angel		Charmed		Charmed		ER		ER		Judging Amy			
DSC 42	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	American Chopper		American Chopper		Varied Programs					
A&E 47	Varied Programs								City Confidential		American Justice			
HIST 48	Varied Programs													
NICK 55	Oddparents	Oddparents	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Dora the Explorer	Go Diego	Blue's Clues	Backyardigans	Dora the Explorer	Wonder Pets	LazyTown	Blue's Clues		
DISN 56	Breakfast Bear	Higglytown	Einstein	JoJo's Circus	Doodlebops	Charlie & Lola	The Wiggles	Koala Brothers	Rolie Polie	Doodlebops	Charlie & Lola	Rolie Polie		
FAM 58	Kong-Series	Spider-Man	Power Rangers	Power Rangers	The 700 Club		Living the Life	Gilmore Girls		Step by Step	Full House	Full House		
HALL 60	New Morning		The Waltons		The Waltons		Little House on the Prairie		Little House on the Prairie		Diagnosis Murder			

WEEKDAYS					MARCH 7 - MARCH 13									
	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30		
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	All My Children		One Life to Live		General Hospital		Judge-Brown	Judge-Brown	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	News	ABC Wl News		
KSNK/NBC 3 (8)	News	Inside Edition	Days of our Lives		Passions		The Insider	Jeopardy!	The Ellen DeGeneres Show		News	NBC News		
KBSL/CBS 12 (11)	News	Bold, Beautiful	As the World Turns		Guiding Light		Dr. Phil		Oprah Winfrey		News	CBS News		
K15CG (2)	Varied	Lions	Varied Programs			Clifford-Red	Cyber-chase	Arthur	Maya & Miguel	Post-cards	Zoom	Busi-ness		
ESPN (28)	College Basketball Cont'd		College Basketball				Varied	Rome-Burning	Around the Horn		Interrup-tion	SportsCenter		
USA (37)	Varied Programs													
TBS (38)	Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Drew Carey	Drew Carey	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Seinfeld	Seinfeld		
WGN (39)	News		Magnum, P.I.		Da Vinci's Inquest		Cosby Show	Cosby Show	Moesha	Moesha	Home Improve.	Home Improve.		
TNT (40)	Judging Amy		NYPD Blue		Law & Order		Law & Order		Charmed		Charmed			
DSC (42)	Varied Programs		The New Detectives		The FBI Files		Varied Programs		It Takes a Thief		Cash Cab	Cash Cab		
A&E (47)	Cold Case Files		Varied Programs						City Confidential		American Justice			
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels		Varied Programs											
NICK (55)	Dora the Explorer	Go Diego	Spon-geBob	Spon-geBob	Jimmy Neutron	Jimmy Neutron	Oddpar-ents	Oddpar-ents	Spon-geBob	Drake & Josh	Ned's School	Danny Phantom		
DISN (56)	Higgly-town	JoJo's Circus	Lilo & Stitch	Whis-kers	Varied Programs				Kim Possible	That's-Raven	Sister, Sister	Zack & Cody		
FAM (58)	Family Matters	Family Matters	Boy Mts. World	Boy Mts. World	Full House	Full House	Ground-ed-Life	Ground-ed-Life	Gilmore Girls		7th Heaven			
HALL (60)	Matlock		Matlock		Little House on the Prairie		Little House on the Prairie		M*A*S'H	M*A*S'H	M*A*S'H	M*A*S'H		

THURSDAY														MARCH 9	
	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30			
KLBY/ABC (4) (6)	News (CC)	Ent. Tonight	Movie: Bringing Down the House ** (2003, Comedy) Steve Martin. (CC)				Primetime (CC)		News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (CC)				
KSNK/NBC (8) (8)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Will & Grace	Four Kings	Name Is Earl	The Office	ER Out on a Limb (N) (CC)		News	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)	Late Night				
KBSL/CBS (12) (11)	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	Survivor: Panama - Exile Island (ITV)		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (N)		Without a Trace Check Your Head		News (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman	Late Late				
K15CG (2)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		In Harmony: Music For Life			Let It Rock (CC)		BBC World		Keeping Up	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)				
ESPN (28)	College Basketball: First Round Game 3 - Teams TBA. (Live)		ACC Tournament - Teams TBA. (Live)		Sports-Center		College Basketball: Big East Tournament Quarterfinal - Teams TBA. (Live) (CC)			Sports-Center		College Basketball			
USA (37)	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Movie: Big Daddy * ½ (1999) A goofy ne'er-do-well adopts an impressionable youngster. Adam Sandler. (CC)				Law & Order: SVU		Law/Ord SVU				
TBS (38)	Raymond	Raymond	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Movie: Wild Wild West * (1999, Western) Will Smith, Kevin Kline. (CC)			Movie: Rush Hour (1998) Mismatched police partners seek a kidnapped girl. (CC)							
WGN (39)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Movie: The Presidio ** (1988) An Army provost helps solve the murder of a guard. (CC)				WGN News at Nine (CC)		Sex and the City	Becker (CC)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)				
TNT (40)	Law & Order Grief (CC) (DVS)		NBA Basketball: Denver Nuggets at Philadelphia 76ers. Wachovia Center. (Live) (CC)				NBA Basketball: San Antonio Spurs at Phoenix Suns. US Airways Center. (Live) (CC)								
DSC (42)	America's Loch Ness Monster (CC)		Search for the Loch Ness Monster		World's Strangest UFO Stories (N)		A Haunting (CC)		A Haunting Echoes From the Grave		Search for the Loch Ness Monster				
A&E (47)	Deadly Deception: Hacking		The First 48 A man is shot 12 times.		The First 48 (CC)		Dallas SWAT (CC)		Crossing Jordan Locard's Exchange		The First 48 A man is shot 12 times.				
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels (CC)		Ancient Discoveries		Decoding the Past Secrets of the Koran		Declassified The Tet Offensive (CC)		Hardcore History (CC)		Ancient Discoveries				
NICK (55)	Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	SpongeBob	Grown Up	Full House	Fresh Prince	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Cosby Show	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince			
DISN (56)	Phil of Future	That's-Raven	Movie: Get a Clue (2002, Comedy) Lindsay Lohan. (CC)			Emperor New	Emperor New	Sister, Sister	Zack & Cody	That's-Raven	Phil of Future	Kim Possible			
FAM (58)	Smallville Pariah (CC)		Movie: Home Alone 2: Lost in New York ** ½ (1992, Comedy) Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci. (CC)				Whose Line? (CC)		The 700 Club (CC)		Home Videos	Home Videos			
HALL (60)	Walker, Texas Ranger Skyjacked		Walker, Texas Ranger (CC)		Movie: Love's Long Journey (2005, Drama) Erin Cottrell. (CC)				M*A*S*H (CC)		M*A*S*H Kim (CC)	M*A*S*H L.I.P. (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)		

FRIDAY													MARCH 10	
	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30		
KLBY/ABC 4 (6)	News (CC)	Ent. Tonight	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		In Justice Badge of Honor (N) (CC)		20/20 (CC)		News (CC)	Nightline (CC)	Jimmy Kimmel Live (N) (CC)			
KSNK/NBC 8 (8)	News	Wheel of Fortune	Deal or No Deal (CC)		Las Vegas Lyle & Substance (N) (CC)		Conviction Denial (N) (CC)		News	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (CC)		Late Night		
KBSL/CBS 12 (11) CG	News (CC)	Friends (CC)	Ghost Whisperer Miss Fortune (CC)		Close to Home Land of Opportunity		NUMB3RS Mind Games (TV) (CC)		News (CC)	Late Show With David Letterman		Late Late		
K15 CG (2)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Wash. Week	NOW (N) (CC)	Market- Market	Daniel O'Donnell: Branson Encore Daniel O'Donnell and guests perform. (CC)				Red Green	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)			
ESPN (28)	College Basketball: Big East Tournament Semifinal -- Teams TBA. From New York.				College Basketball: Big East Tournament Semifinal -- Teams TBA. From New York. (Live) (CC)				Semifinal -- (CC)		Sports- Center	College Basketball		
USA (37)	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		Monk Monk suspects a dentist.		House Histories (CC)		Law & Order: SVU			
TBS (38)	Ray- mond	Ray- mond	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Movie: Shanghai Noon *** (2000, Comedy) (PA) Jackie Chan. (Premiere)				Movie: Turner & Hooch ***½ (1989, Comedy) Tom Hanks. (CC)					
WGN (39)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)		Movie: Delta Force 2 ***½ (1990, Adventure) Chuck Norris, Billy Drago. (CC)				WGN News at Nine (CC)		Sex and the City	Becker (CC)	America's Funniest Home Videos (CC)			
TNT (40)	Law & Order Embedded		Movie: Saving Private Ryan **** (1998, War) U.S. troops look missing comrade during World War II. Tom Hanks, Edward Burns.				for a (CC)		Movie: Good Morning, Vietnam *** (1987, Comedy)					
DISC (42)	The FBI Files Family Secrets (CC)		The FBI Files Sniper at Home (CC)		I Shouldn't Be Alive (N)		Ultimate Survival (N)		Tsunami: Wave of Disaster (CC)		The FBI Files Sniper at Home (CC)			
A&E (47)	American Justice		Biography: Jeff Foxworthy		Biography Inside NASCAR The world of NASCAR. (CC)				Driven to Win		Driven to Win	Biography: Jeff Foxworthy		
HIST (48)	Modern Marvels (CC)		Warrior Queen Boudica (N) (CC)				Heroes Under Fire Shadow Warriors		Digging for the Truth (CC)		Warrior Queen Boudica (CC)			
NICK (55)	Nick- toons TV	Nick- toons TV	Zoey 101 Beachside vacation. (N) (CC)		Nick- toons TV		Full House		Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	Cosby Show	Rose- anne	Rose- anne	
DISN (56)	Phil of Future	That's- Raven	Movie: Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams *** (2002) Antonio Banderas.				Phil of Future		Sister, Sister	Zack & Cody	That's- Raven	Phil of Future	Kim Possible	
FAM (58)	Smallville Recruit (CC)		Movie: Flight of the Navigator *** (1986, Fantasy) Joey Kramer. (CC)				Whose Line?		Whose Line?	The 700 Club (CC)		Home Videos	Home Videos	
HALL (60)	Walker, Texas Ranger (Part 1 of 2)		Walker, Texas Ranger (Part 2 of 2)		Walker, Texas Ranger Something in the Shadows (CC)				M*A*S*H (CC)		M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)	M*A*S*H (CC)	