

# WHAT TO KNOW

About The

## FL HEARTBEAT PROTECTION ACT

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Abortions in Florida are legal up to 6 weeks gestation. This is typically the time at which a heartbeat is detectable.

Miscarriage is NOT an elective abortion. Therefore, women will not be denied medical care for miscarriages.

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**3**

Ectopic pregnancy care is NOT an elective abortion, and an abortion will NOT resolve that serious medical condition. Women will not be denied medical care for ectopic pregnancies.

The abortion pill must be administered in person by a physician, outlawing the dispensing of the pill through mail.

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Exceptions to the law exist in cases of rape, incest, human trafficking, fatal fetal abnormality, or when the pregnant woman's life is in danger.

## What does all this mean?

If you have a positive at-home pregnancy test, the next thing to do is schedule a medical-grade pregnancy test and pregnancy confirmation ultrasound. Then, based on the results and the date of the pregnancy, you can explore all your pregnancy options. If you were planning to have an abortion but are not able to because of the new laws, you are not alone. We are here to help with the resources and support you need. Call today to schedule a free pregnancy test and ultrasound or to discuss your options with a Registered Nurse. We are here for you.

FCWS.org  
(904) 915-4357  
(904) 262-6300

 **FIRST COAST**  
WOMEN'S SERVICES

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## WHAT IF I SEE A HEARTBEAT?

Despite its name, the Florida Heartbeat Protection Act does not make abortion illegal from the moment a heartbeat is detected. Instead, it is based on how far along the pregnancy is. Abortion is illegal from 6-weeks gestation onward.

## WHAT IF I DON'T SEE A HEARTBEAT?

There are a number of reasons a heartbeat may not be detected. If you cannot confirm the pregnancy, there is no need to pursue an abortion yet. Our medical staff will schedule a repeat ultrasound for you within a few days.

## WHAT IF I BUY THE PILLS ONLINE?

As of May 1st, 2024, abortion pills must be administered in person by a physician in the state of Florida, not obtained online.

## WHAT IF I TAKE THE PILL AND CHANGE MY MIND?

A medical abortion is a 2-part process. If you begin the chemical abortion process and have taken the first pill only, you can still change your mind. Go to [abortionpillreversal.com](https://abortionpillreversal.com) or call us to talk with one of our Registered Nurses for help with what to do to reverse the process as soon as possible.

## WHAT IF I START BLEEDING OR HAVE PAIN?

Bleeding is a normal part of the abortion process. However, if you experience heavy bleeding (soaking 2 pads an hour for longer than 2 hours), abdominal cramping/ pain that is more than what you experience with your periods, you should go to your nearest emergency room for immediate care.

## WHAT IF I ALREADY HAD AN ABORTION?

You are not alone. Sometimes it is hard to process the feelings that can follow an abortion. Some women feel relief and some feel regret while others feel a mixture. We are here for you. Reach out to us today to learn more about our post-abortion services.

