

# Vote No - SF 85

## Wyoming Medical Society



WYOMING  
MEDICAL  
SOCIETY

*Advocating for  
doctors since 1903*

*WMS members strongly voiced their opposition to this bill urging WMS leadership to change the organization's position from neutral to opposing Senate File 85 - Certificate of Nonviable birth.*

### Intrusive & Harmful

There are numerous areas in which government involvement is necessary and supportive. A woman's private and personal loss of a pregnancy is not one of those areas. Physicians have great skill in navigating the difficult and emotional waters of pregnancy loss with their patients and strongly oppose inaccurately termed certificate options from the state. Assigning gender, names and dates in many cases could do more harm to the healing process than understanding the biologic reasoning for loss and appreciating the potential for healthy future pregnancies.

### Inaccurate & Unnecessary

Incidence of miscarriage is 8-20% in clinically recognized pregnancies. This early loss of pregnancy is most commonly termed a miscarriage, not a nonviable birth. Approximately 50% of early pregnancy losses, or miscarriages, are due to fetal chromosomal abnormalities. Physicians know best how to care for women and their families suffering miscarriage, guiding them through the grief process and helping them heal physically and emotionally. ***WMS Physicians believe that a certificate from the state documenting a nonviable birth is not medically correct and may exacerbate emotional grief.***

### Burdensome

Dating early pregnancy and identifying gender is difficult, if not impossible, in early pregnancy. Determining gender requires expensive testing in the first trimester. Although SF85 makes exceptions for when this information is not known, SF85 potentially subjects grieving patients to difficult conversations and unnecessary expensive testing. SF85 also increases the amount of administrative work for already overburdened Obstetricians and Family Practitioners, imposing statutory work requirements which do not improve patient care.

### Our Mission

The Wyoming Medical Society was founded in 1903 to provide representation, advocacy and service to Wyoming physicians. ...WMS is, and always will be, a staunch advocate for physicians.

WMS takes no position in the contentious and emotional debate of pro-life v pro-choice.

WMS involvement rests solely on our firm belief in the sanctity of the physician-patient relationship and protecting medicine from unnecessary government intrusion.

