STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

March 31, 2016

The Honorable Michele Reagan
Secretary of State
1700 W. Washington, 7th Floor
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Secretary Reagan:

I signed SB1324.

Previous Arizona law provided flexibility and tied Arizona standards on medication abortion to the FDA standard. Under that law, Arizona law would change as the federal standard changed. But Planned Parenthood filed litigation over this flexibility and forced the hand of the legislature to tie Arizona law to a specific label rather allowing flexibility. It is because of that litigation that we are here today.

At the time SB1324 was passed, the FDA had not updated its label in fifteen years, and there was no indication that an update was imminent. The legislature acted in good faith to deal with litigation brought by an organization that profits from and advocates for expanded access to abortion.

In such a case, I will always stand with those advocating life. I recognize that given the unexpected actions by the FDA, some changes may need to be made in a later bill, and I stand ready to consider those changes when they reach my desk.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor
State of Arizona

cc: The Honorable David Gowan
The Honorable Andy Biggs
The Honorable Kimberly Yee

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