

Abortion Providers Were Teaching in Utah Schools – Not Anymore

Most Parents Didn't Know Planned Parenthood Was in the Classroom

WRITTEN BY
Staff Writer

Utah parents were recently hit with a startling truth: for years, **Planned Parenthood** and similar abortion-affiliated organizations have been **teaching in public school classrooms**, presenting health and sex education materials—including discussions about abortion—often with little public awareness.

With the passage of **House Bill 233** in early 2025, that chapter has officially closed. The law, signed by **Governor Spencer Cox** on **March 26, 2025**, and set to take effect **July 1**, bans any organization that **performs or refers for elective abortions**—or is affiliated with one—from participating in **any health-related instruction** in Utah's public schools.

What HB 233 Does

HB 233, also known as the *School Curriculum Amendments*, prohibits any abortion provider or affiliate from offering **curriculum, materials, or instruction** in schools that receive public funds. That includes programs developed, sponsored, or distributed by such organizations, even if abortion is not the focus of the classroom content.

The bill's passage effectively removes **Planned Parenthood** from the list of groups allowed to teach students about human development, contraception, consent, and related health topics—subjects they've been addressing in Utah classrooms for years.

The Real Shock: Parents Had No Idea

While the new law has drawn attention, the **bigger surprise for many Utah families** has been the **discovery** that abortion-affiliated



© Ken Wolter | Dreamstime.com

organizations like Planned Parenthood were **already embedded in the school system**, quietly influencing student education on sexual health.

According to the **Worldwide Organization for Women**, more than **6,000 students** across Utah—from elementary to high school—received classroom instruction from Planned Parenthood educators in 2023 alone. These presentations often took place with **minimal transparency** and under the assumption of neutrality, despite the organization’s public advocacy for abortion access.

Why Supporters Backed the Bill

The bill's sponsor, **Rep. Nicholeen Peck (R-Tooele)**, emphasized that allowing organizations with a financial and ideological stake in abortion to instruct children on sensitive health topics represents a **clear conflict of interest**.

“This isn’t just about curriculum,” Peck stated. “It’s about influence—about who we are giving authority to shape our children’s understanding of life, sexuality, and morality. Parents deserve to know who’s speaking to their kids.”

Supporters also argue that the law protects the **moral and educational integrity** of Utah classrooms, ensuring that instruction comes from sources free of potential bias or profit motive.

The Opposition

Opponents, including **Utah House Democrats** and some education advocates, claim the bill is more about ideology than student welfare. They argue that Utah's sex education is already

regulated, opt-in, and approved by the State Board of Education, meaning parents must give explicit permission before their child receives any instruction from outside organizations.

Critics like **Rep. Carol Spackman Moss (D-Salt Lake City)**, a retired teacher, insisted that Planned Parenthood followed the rules and delivered medically accurate, board-approved content.

“Parents already had to sign off,” she noted. “This bill removes trained educators and limits school options unnecessarily.”

Enforcement and Impact

The **Utah State Board of Education** is now tasked with ensuring that school districts comply with HB 233. Violations could result in loss of funding or other penalties.

While only a portion of Utah schools—mainly in urban areas—have partnered with Planned Parenthood, the law guarantees that **no public school** will be allowed to do so moving forward.

Part of a Growing Trend

Utah's decision aligns with a broader national movement to **separate public education from abortion-affiliated organizations**. States like **Iowa** and **Kansas** have passed similar restrictions in recent years, reflecting growing concern over ideological influence in school systems.

Organizations like the **Worldwide Organization for Women** applauded Utah's action, calling it a win for **transparency, parental rights, and ethical education.**

Conclusion

The real headline isn't just that Utah banned abortion providers from classrooms—it's that they were there in the first place, and most parents had **no idea**.

Whether seen as a long-overdue safeguard or a politically motivated restriction, **HB 233** sends a clear message:

Public schools are not the place for organizations tied to the abortion industry. 📣