

Earth to Rep. Berceau ...

Women Will Not Be Prosecuted for Abortions!

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This morning on Wisconsin Public Radio, Rep. Terese Berceau repeatedly made the false claim that if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned, women would go to prison for having abortions unless Wisconsin's abortion statute (s. 940.04) is repealed. Representative Berceau is the Assembly author of legislation to repeal the statute.

"The fact is, no woman in the state of Wisconsin will ever go to prison for having an abortion and Rep. Berceau knows that," said Susan Armacost, Legislative Director of Wisconsin Right to Life, the lead organization in opposition to the Berceau bill to repeal s. 940.04. "In 1985 the state legislature passed a law, s. 940.13, that completely exempts women who undergo abortions from being penalized in any way under Wisconsin law. Wisconsin Right to Life strongly supported the enactment of that law."

"What Rep. Berceau and pro-abortion organizations do is cite language in the original abortion statute that did contain such penalties but they fail to tell people that the penalties for women obtaining abortions were completely nullified by the enactment of the 1985 law," said Armacost. "What Rep. Berceau and others are saying is blatantly dishonest!"

Even though the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision legalized abortion on demand in our nation, s. 940.04 remains on the lawbooks. Section 940.04 would go back into effect if *Roe* should be overturned and unborn babies would once again be protected from death by abortion with a provision to protect the life of the mother.