



Newly energized by their success in November's midterm elections, conservative legislators in dozens of states are mounting aggressive campaigns to limit abortions. The lawmakers are drafting, and some have already introduced, bills that would ban most abortions at 20 weeks after conception, push women considering abortions to view a live ultrasound of the fetus, or curb insurance coverage, among other proposals.

In Florida and Kansas, legislators plan to reintroduce measures that were vetoed by previous governors but have the support of the new chief executives, like ultrasound requirements and more stringent regulation of late-term abortions.

"I call on the Legislature to bring to my desk legislation that protects the unborn, establishing a culture of life in Kansas," Gov. Sam Brownback said last week in his first State of the State message.

"This is the best climate for passing pro-life laws in years," said Michael Gonidakis, executive director of Ohio Right to Life, expressing the mood in many states. "We've got a pro-life governor and a brand new pro-life speaker. Our government now is pro-life from top to bottom."

Abortion opponents plan marches in Washington and elsewhere this weekend and on Monday to mark the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision, *Roe v. Wade*, that established a woman's right to an abortion.

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