

This is a printer friendly version of an article from the **The Greenville News**
To print this article open the file menu and choose Print.

[Back](#)

Inglis announces support for ultrasound bill
State law would require viewing before abortion

Published: Wednesday, March 21, 2007 - 2:00 am

By Tim Smith
CAPITAL BUREAU
tcsmith@greenvillenews.com

COLUMBIA -- Fourth District U.S. Rep. Bob Inglis announced Tuesday he supports a bill pending in the South Carolina House that would require women seeking an abortion to first view an ultrasound image of the fetus.

"As a South Carolinian, I think it's an important opportunity to advance the concept of real informed consent," the Travelers Rest Republican told The Greenville News. "It's important from time to time to weigh in on things that really matter to you and life really matters to me."

Inglis said he thinks the ultrasound legislation could eventually become federal legislation. House members are expected to resume debate on the bill this week. The legislation would require that a woman seeking an abortion sign a form stating she has been shown an ultrasound image of the fetus.

Supporters argue the bill is giving a woman more information to use in making her decision. Opponents argue that the requirement would be another obstacle for women and is an attempt to discourage more abortions.

Advertisement Inglis said he is not opposed to a proposed amendment that would grant exceptions to the victims of rape or incest.

"I'd prefer that those exceptions not be there," he said. "But if they are necessary to advance the legislation, you take what you can get."

Inglis said, "There is a lot of misinformation about abortions." He said, "Technology exists now to make a very clear and informed consent opportunity available to a patient. As ultrasound has become more and more common, it really is significant to have people see the particular child involved."

It's not the first time Inglis has sounded off on state political matters. He jumped into the Confederate flag debate years ago, he said, to support former Gov. David Beasley.

The legislation is also supported by Gov. Mark Sanford. A spokesman said Tuesday Sanford prefers the legislation stand as it is. He said any changes "are going to have to be ironed out in the legislative process."

