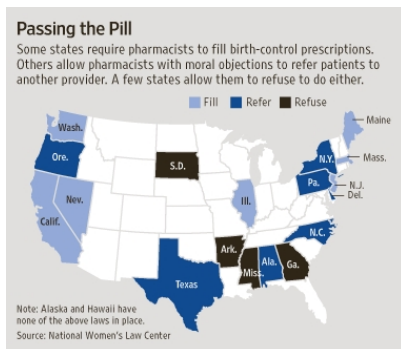


## Rules Let Health Workers Deny Abortions

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The Bush administration has proposed stronger protections for health-care workers who refuse to participate in abortions, issuing a sweeping regulation that could also undercut access to birth-control pills and other forms of contraception.

The new rules, which could take effect after a 30-day comment period, threaten state governments with a cutoff in federal funding if they force medical personnel to perform, assist in or refer patients to abortion services.

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**TVNL Comment: The ultimate insanity of this rule would allow health care providers who profess to be Christian Scientists to refuse patients ALL medical services on religious grounds.□**