

North Dakota passes abortion ban

by UPI

BISMARCK, N.D. - North Dakota state legislators in Bismarck have voted to ban most abortions if the courts find the legislation constitutional.

Under the bill approved Monday, the only abortions allowed in North Dakota would be those to protect the life of the mother or in cases of rape or incest, the Bismarck (N.D.) Tribune reported Tuesday.

North Dakota was the second state, behind Mississippi, to pass such a bill, the newspaper said.

The bill "furthers the culture of life so that we don't turn our back on unborn children or the women who carry them," said Christopher Dodson, of the North Dakota Catholic Conference.

State Sen. Tracy Potter said the legislation was "terribly embarrassing."

"I believe this makes it look like North Dakota doesn't respect women's rights," he told the newspaper.

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