

## Bill Aims To Tighten Brazil's Abortion Laws Amid Zika, Microcephaly Fears; Women On Web Temporarily Suspends Operations In Country

**Mar 29, 2016**

GlobalPost (<http://www.globalpost.com/article/6751897/2016/03/28/new-bill-aims-make-brazils-abortion-law-even-tougher>): A new bill aims to make Brazil's abortion law even tougher

"...[T]he [Zika] crisis is spurring women's rights activists to push for allowing abortion in cases of the birth defect called microcephaly, it's also driven at least one Brazilian lawmaker in the opposite direction. A recent bill introduced by Anderson Ferreira, a conservative congressman from Brazil's northeast, seeks to actually toughen the penalty for women who abort a fetus believed to have microcephaly or any other abnormality..." (Carless, 3/28).

Los Angeles Times (<http://www.latimes.com/world/mexico-americas/la-fg-global-abortion-drugs-20160327-story.html>): Brazil seizes abortion drugs sent to women living in fear of Zika

"...[T]he [Women on Web] group has temporarily suspended its operations in the country because Brazilian authorities have confiscated the drugs in the mail. Abortion is prohibited in most instances in Brazil, and the drugs are illegal. ... Women on Web, a Canadian group that is based in the Netherlands and operates worldwide, said in February that it had sent 'dozens of packages' to women in Brazil but only two packages had arrived. The rest were apparently seized. The packages provided by Women on Web contained misoprostol and mifepristone, which can end a pregnancy..." (Simmons/Rigby, 3/27).

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