

Politics

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Scott Walker says he would sign ban on abortions after 20 weeks



Associated Press

Gov. Scott Walker speaks Saturday at the winter meeting of the free market Club for Growth winter economic conference.

By Patrick Marley of the Journal Sentinel

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Walker on his abortion stance

Madison — Gov. Scott Walker on Tuesday embraced a move to ban abortion after 20 weeks after repeatedly declining to spell out where he stood on the issue in last year's re-election campaign.

Wisconsin Right to Life has touted as its top priority legislation that has yet to be introduced that would [prevent women from seeking abortions in most cases after 20 weeks](#).

Walker said in last year's campaign he opposed abortion, but refused to say whether he supported banning the procedure after 20 weeks. At one stage, he ran an ad saying earlier restrictions he approved were aimed at patient safety and that he understood the decision to terminate a pregnancy was an "agonizing one."

"I'm pro-life, so that part shouldn't shock anybody," he [told Milwaukee Journal Sentinel editors and reporters](#) in October. "It doesn't shock anybody, the legislation I've signed in the past."

In a [Tuesday letter](#), he addressed specific legislation head on.

"As the Wisconsin legislature moves forward in the coming session, further protections for mother and child are likely to come to my desk in the form of a bill to prohibit abortions after 20 weeks," his letter said. "I will sign that bill when it gets to my desk and support similar legislation on the federal level."

"I was raised to believe in the sanctity of life and I will always fight to protect it."

The letter was on Walker's campaign letterhead and released by the Susan B. Anthony List, an anti-abortion group.

It is the latest example of Walker [downplaying a major issue until after winning the governor's race](#).

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