

Arizona abortion restrictions to remain blocked

June 3 2014

A federal appeals court has decided to continue blocking the nation's strictest restrictions on the use of abortion drugs.

A three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decided Tuesday to keep in place the injunction against Arizona's new rules while a lawsuit is pending. The panel says the rules appear to cause an "undue burden" on [women](#)'s right to abortions.

The regulations ban women from taking the most common abortion-inducing drug—RU-486—after the seventh week of pregnancy instead of the ninth. They also require that the drug be administered only at the FDA-approved dosage and that both doses be taken at a clinic.

Planned Parenthood Arizona has sued to stop the rules.

The panel granted the stay one day after the rules took effect in April. A [federal judge](#) in Tucson had declined to block them temporarily.

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