

Heartbeat abortion bill approved by governor

Jackson The Republican governor of Mississippi is to sign a bill that bans abortion once a foetal heartbeat is detected, which is often before a woman knows she is pregnant. Any doctor violating the restriction could lose their licence. The “heartbeat bill” is the second attempt in a year to restrict terminations in the state, which has a single abortion clinic. Phil Bryant, 64, the governor, has thanked his legislature for the bill. Republicans have introduced similar measures in several states, hoping for a showdown in the Supreme Court, dominated by conservatives, to challenge the right to abortion. *(Reuters)*