

## **Testimony of Tim Throckmorton, Proponent SB23, March 19, 2019**

Chairman Merrin, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking member Boyd and Esteemed Members of the HEALTH COMMITTEE:

I applaud the Senate leadership for quickly moving forward on this bill. I am deeply grateful for the many who have labored long in the fight to make the Heartbeat Bill (SB 23) a reality in Ohio... 57 lives a day matter!

We are gathered here today because of...

The 41,000 babies that were aborted since the governor's veto of the Heartbeat Bill in 2016.

The over 61 million aborted babies in America since 1973, a number which continues to increase because the Heartbeat Bill's defeat!

Millions of Americans were shocked by the state of New York's unthinkable disregard for the sanctity of human life which shook us to the core of our beings ushering us into yet a new level depravity by a Governor and state legislators who championed a bill that legalizes abortion from week one of a pregnancy through birth.

Thank God we are not discussing this in Ohio!

Prolife leaders and advocates throughout America were sickened at the Governor of Virginia's nonchalant description of what Virginia's proposed legislation would allow. "The infant would be delivered. The infant would be kept comfortable. The infant would be resuscitated if that's what the mother and the family desired," An implied decision that would determine whether the baby lives or dies.

Thank God we are not discussing this in Ohio!

As former United States Senator Jim DeMint wisely noted, Northam did the one thing pro-abortion politicians are never supposed to do: he told the truth. He didn't pretend it was about the health of the mother. He didn't call the child a "fetus," he said "infant" because he knows they are fully human. Northam accidentally pulled back the curtain on the lie that has hung around the abortion issue for 40 years, and revealed the horror within.

As Georgie Boorman of the Federalist Society observed, the world has witnessed godless regimes that have devalued and destroyed life at will all the while American culture has historically stood in stark contrast against this backdrop of death and misery. It's *not* because we Americans are inherently better than any other people group. It is because this nation was founded on Christian principles, namely that we are endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights. First among those rights is *life*...

A human heartbeat's importance is reflected in our public health and legal institutions. Every stage of human development, the beating heart is observed. Doctor's conduct tests to determine if an unborn child has a viable heartbeat. He listens to your heart when you go in for a checkup. It is the last thing the physician checks when he or she announces the time of death after a patient passes away.

Our legal system is designed to safeguard human life. Ideally, should a life be taken in any unlawful manner, the system ensures that justice prevails. In essence, human life is given legal protection from harm. Depriving any person of this natural right to life deviates from the very truths our Forefathers saw as self-evident.

To each of you who serve on this important committee... this is not Republican or Democrat issue! Nor is it Conservative or Liberal... this, is a human issue! Though life is oftentimes overshadowed by partisan politics. The value of human life is of such importance that we cannot

allow the issues that divide us to prevent us from doing what we know in our hearts to be morally right. You have been entrusted with decisions that can lay the foundation for a greater future for our State, where the lives of those born and those yet to be born are cherished and protected. May we begin that future... today.

Your vote will resonate far beyond the confines of this Chamber and will impact the lives of millions yet to be born. I wholeheartedly support this legislation. These lives are sacred and must be protected, from the first heartbeat to the last.

The time for action has come.

I extend to you sitting on this honorable committee the strongest urging to pass Senate Bill 23 along to the full Senate for a yes vote.

Our grandchildren will look back at this moment of history and rightly judge our actions, or our inaction. May they be able to look proudly at our honorable stand for life... please vote yes.

For every baby within the border of this great state, they care little of our politics and our arguments... they simply desire to live. 57 lives today, each day are counting on our best efforts. Please support the Heartbeat Bill (SB 23)

Thank you

**Tim Throckmorton**

Midwest Regional Director for Church Ministries  
The Family Research Council