

**Sarah Dershimer**  
**Senate Bill 23 – Six-Week Abortion Ban**  
**Opponent Testimony**  
**Ohio House Health Committee**  
**March 26, 2019**

Chairman Merrin, Vice-Chair Manning, Ranking Minority Member Boyd, and other Members of the House Health Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Sarah I am from West Chester. I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 23.

I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 23 for numerous reasons. I would want the option to have an abortion if I found out I was pregnant. I'm not sure when I want to start a family, but I want to be able to plan that. My mom was a high school dropout and I watched her struggle to make ends meet. I watched us on food stamps. I remember turning 19 and ageing out of Medicaid. I was just lucky I had enough money for my antibiotic because I had strep throat. For about year, after ageing out Medicaid, I did not get any kind of medical care. I did not get any preventive care. I only went to the doctor if I was sick and couldn't take it. I could not afford at the time to get medical care. I want to be able to plan my pregnancy so my children can have everything and more. I want to be financially stable when I start a family. I want to be able to help my kids to get their start as an adult. I want to be able to decide when I start a family.

I ask you consider my testimony and vote no on this harmful, dangerous, life changing bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. I will now take any questions you may have.