

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

Chairman Merrin, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Boyd, and Members of the Ohio House Committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Angelica Young. I am a Social Media and Events Coordinator in Dayton, Ohio. I am against Senate Bill 23, *Six Week Abortion Ban*, because it violates the basic rights women are constitutionally owed.

Forty-five years ago in *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court held that states may not ban abortion before viability for any reason. The legalization of abortion, in Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's words, made it possible for a woman to take "*autonomous charge of her full life's course*," by giving her the option to enter the workforce, gain financial independence, and plan her family. Abortions are necessary for many reasons, including but not limited to, rape, incest, severe birth defects, life threatening illness and in more serious cases severe harm or death for the mother. These are the situations where a woman and her doctor need every medical option available.

Finally, Mr. Trump has said "*there must be some form of punishment*", and "*babies being ripped from the mother's womb moments after birth are, 'living, feeling, beautiful babies who will never get the chance to share their love and dreams with the world...'*" Scientists say available evidence suggests a fetus cannot feel pain at that point. My question to you all, members of the Senate Health Committee is this; why are we allowing a Senate panel, made up by a vast majority of men, to create laws that would adversely affect a woman's right to choose what she does or does not do with her body?

*"We must fight harder than ever to protect every woman's right to control her own body, life, and future. We know the majority of Americans want access to safe, legal abortion. It's time that our elected representatives listen to us: patients do not want politicians in the exam room making our health decisions."*

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote *No* on this bill that could negatively impact women's reproductive rights going forward with S.B. 23. Thank you for your time and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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