

**Jeffrey Copelin**  
**Senate Bill 23 – Six-Week Abortion Ban**  
**Opponent Testimony**  
**Ohio House Health Committee**

Chairman Merrin, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Member Boyd, and members of the House Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to Senate Bill 23, the dangerous six week abortion ban. My name is Jeffrey Copelin, I live in Norwood Ohio, and I am very against Ohio passing a six week abortion ban.

When I was 22 years old I had been in a relationship with my girlfriend at the time for about a year when she told me she was pregnant. She wanted to talk through her options with me and asked my opinion. Ultimately, neither of us felt ready for the responsibility of having a child. I was working two jobs and she was working one and we did not always have enough money to cover our bills. We were also not sure if we were going to stay together. She made the final decision to get an abortion and I supported her completely. I went with her to her appointment at Women's Med Center in Cincinnati and waited in the waiting room while she got the procedure. The staff there were very supportive and overall we had a good experience.

She and I dated for about another year before breaking up for good. While it was my experience that we made the decision to get an abortion together, for me it was always really her choice. I think women should always have the right to make the best decision for their bodies since they are the ones who have to go through it.

I know she made the right decision. I'm glad abortion was an option for her and for me. My life, career, and family are all better off because we had access to abortion. I can also say that if abortion had not been legal or accessible in Ohio we would have found a way to go out of state. Once we had agreed that abortion was the right decision we did not change our minds. She really did not want to be pregnant at the time. That is why I urge a no vote on Senate Bill 23 the six week abortion ban. Thank you and I can answer any questions.

Jeffrey Copelin  
4168 Forest Ave.  
Norwood, OH 45212  
513-706-8934  
In person