



Jessica Warner

House Bill 206

House Ways and Means Committee

October 29, 2019

Chairman Merrin, Vice-chair LaRe, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today on HB 206. My name is Jessica Warner and I am the Director of Legislative Affairs for Ohio Right to Life. On behalf of Ohio Right to Life and our statewide membership and affiliates, I am here today to speak in support of enhancing the adoption tax credit.

In the 130th GA, we had the privilege of working with the Ohio Legislature in expanding the adoption tax credit, and we are excited to see that the Legislature is again working on this important issue. The cost of adoption can be one of the most challenging parts of the process and sadly a deterrent to many families, with fees and expenses ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 and beyond. Increasing the minimum credit from \$1,500 to \$5,000 and making it fully refundable will open the doors to families who might otherwise struggle financially to adopt, and ensure that adoptions are more affordable and accessible for all Ohioans.

We are grateful for a Legislature and Governor who continue to put families first and truly invest in Ohio children and families.

On behalf of Ohio Right to Life, I respectfully ask that you support HB 206.