

Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee
Proponent testimony re: Senate Resolution 41
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Chairman Burke, Vice Chairman Huffman, Ranking Member Antonio and members of the committee, thank you for considering the following comments in support of Senate Resolution 41, sponsored by Senator Matt Huffman and Senate President Larry Obhof, which would call on the Congress of the United States to expeditiously enact the “Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.”

The Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio (RTLACO) is a collaborative of many life-affirming organizations throughout our state who are dedicated to supporting the right to life, and the personhood of the unborn. Traditionally, we have debated by policy these fundamental philosophies with those who seek unfettered access to abortion while the child is still in-utero. Now it is incumbent to discuss the necessity of these principles after the live birth of the child.

We believe that no matter the position on the issue of abortion, we must all surely agree that the full protection of law and medicine should be exercised on behalf of an infant born alive, even if that infant was born alive after a failed abortion attempt. To stand for any less, or to advocate for the normalization and legalization of allowing a born child to die from lack of medical attention and care is inhumane and is beneath the dignity of a civil society.

Senator Ben Sasse has introduced S130 in the 116th Congress to address the lack of specificity in federal law regarding the live-birth-during-abortion situations that occur. Some may argue that current laws against infanticide suffice, but it is clear from the reports of the multiple occurrences of born-alive abortion survivors being left to die without attention or medical care by the provider or facility that this is an area that needs clarity and specificity in law.

RTLACO is grateful to Senator Huffman and Senate President Obhof for introducing SR41 to add Ohio’s support to this necessary legislation in our federal Congress. We would urge the members of the Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee to adopt this resolution and send Ohio’s voice to help those who have no voice.