



Dayton Right to Life Society
Dayton Right to Life Foundation



Chairwoman Jones, Ranking member Tavares and committee members:

Thank you for allowing me to provide proponent testimony today on Senate Bill 127, the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

My name is Paul Coudron and I am the Executive Director of Dayton Right to Life (DRTL). I – along with members of our Board, Dayton Right to Life staff, DRTL volunteers and our regional membership – consider myself among the 60 percent of Americans who support legislation to protect pain-capable babies from abortion.

For the last four decades, residents of the greater Dayton area have long associated one name with the painful experience of abortion: Martin Haskell, the abortionist who, many years ago, popularized the now banned “partial-birth” abortion procedure. Martin Haskell, who runs an abortion facility in Kettering and a now shuttered facility in Cincinnati, pioneered the late-term abortion technique that struck terror into the hearts and minds of 70 percent of Americans who eventually supported the ban on the procedure.

As with the partial-birth abortion ban, I believe that we have an overwhelming numbers of Americans saying “enough is enough” when it comes to inflicting painful abortions on pain-capable babies. The United States Supreme Court agreed with the court of public opinion by upholding the ban on partial birth abortion.

While Americans removed the scourge of partial-birth abortion from our country eight years ago, we cannot fool ourselves into thinking that we have a clear conscience or that we have rid ourselves of the horrific realities of late-term surgical abortions.

The Ohio Abortion Report tells us that in 2013, 83 percent of abortions were surgical – meaning that almost 20,000 babies were brutally dismembered in our state. Annually, around 18,000 five-month pre-born babies - children on the verge of viability – are aborted across the United States.

With the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, we are asking you to rein in the extreme practice of late term abortion, and to bring Ohio into a more reasonable standing with the rest of the world’s limitations on late-term abortions. With this legislation, we can close yet another chapter of the pain-inducing practice of abortion in Ohio.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I urge you to vote the conscience of an overwhelming number of Americans who support this legislation. I urge you to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

425 N. Findlay Street
Dayton, OH 45404

phone (937) 461-3625
fax (937) 461-3702

daytonlife.org