

Jack Kopechek MD

Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 145

House Criminal Justice Committee

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Chairman Manning, Vice Chair Rezabek, Ranking Member Celebreeze, and distinguished members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today regarding S.B. 145. My name is Jack Kopechek and I am a board-certified pediatrician who has cared for babies and children in central Ohio for more over 30 years. Like my pediatrician colleagues, my profession is dedicated to preserving children's well-being and alleviating their suffering when possible. It is both shameful and utterly incomprehensible to me that members of the medical profession should perform procedures that extinguish the lives of those who would otherwise be our patients and do so in a horrifically cruel manner that inflicts pain and suffering on helpless victims. In performing D & E abortions, doctors use steel instruments to crush the baby's skull and dismember and extract the baby from the uterus. The doctor then reassembles the baby's body parts on a tray to make sure they have not left any parts in the womb. It makes me feel sick to even write about this, but this very event occurred nearly 3000 times in Ohio in 2015.

As our elected representatives, you have the authority to put an end to this savage practice. I am hopeful that you will seriously consider the testimony that proponents of this bill are sharing with you and that you will use your influence and your votes to help move this bill towards becoming law.

Sincerely,

*Jack Kopechek MD*

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