

Juliana Lavey
HB 258 – Six-Week Abortion Ban
Opponent Testimony
Ohio Senate Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee
December 5, 2018

Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Beagle, Ranking Member Tavares, and members of the Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Juliana Lavey. I am an Ohio medical student planning on entering into Family Medicine and providing comprehensive patient care, including access to reproductive and family planning services.

I am strongly opposed to HB 258.

Women seeking abortions are in vulnerable and high-stress situations. Approximately 90% of women who do not want to become pregnant are using contraceptive. Despite this, about half of the pregnancies in this country are unintended, and as a result one in four women in their lifetime will have an abortion. This is a safe and common procedure.

American citizens have a constitutional right to have access to this procedure, and HB258 puts unfair and bias restrictions on this right that are not based on medical reasoning. This bill would limit any abortions past six weeks, which is before many women even know they are pregnant. This effectively removes the woman's ability to be an active participant in her medical care. This bill is a direct violation of the precedent set by *Roe v. Wade* and is unduly influenced by the personal beliefs of the bill writers and has no foundation in science, women's health, or clinical care.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this unfair and dangerous bill.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Juliana Lavey