



*Bringing physicians together
for a healthier Ohio*

TO: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

FR: Robyn Chatman, MD, President

DA: June 26, 2017

RE: SB 145

I am writing to express concerns about SB 145 because of specific provisions that allow for civil and criminal penalties for clinicians who provide medical care related to women's reproductive health issues.

It is the policy of the Ohio State Medical Association (OSMA) to neither promote nor oppose legislative proposals related to the legality of abortion procedures. However, separate OSMA policy opposes legislation that criminalizes or otherwise penalizes any medical procedure that is considered a standard of care.

While the scope of medical practice is and should be under legislative control, determining the appropriateness for performing standard medical procedures has traditionally been – and should continue to be – left to the expertise of medical professionals.

On behalf of nearly 16,000 members of the OSMA, I appreciate your attention to this letter and consideration for our concerns. Should you care to discuss these matters further, please feel free to contact Tim Maglione, the OSMA's Senior Director of Government Relations at 614-527-6762 or tmaglione@osma.org.

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