



Dr. David Hackney, Vice/Legislative Chair
66 E. Lynn Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 621-2000
acogohio@outlook.com

**Ohio House
Civil Justice Committee
SB27 Fetal Remains Surgical Abortions
And Proposed AM_133_3560
Written Testimony of
David Hackney, Vice/Legislative Chair**

As Chair and Vice-Chair of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Ohio Section (ACOG Ohio), we represent over 1500 obstetricians and gynecologists who practice in our state and approximately 58,000 obstetrician-gynecologists and women's health care professionals nationally. We write today to share our opposition to an amendment purportedly to be offered for SB27 Fetal Remains – Surgical Abortions. The amendment would prohibit public facilities from employing or affiliating with an entity that employs a physician who performs or induces abortions, unless the abortion is necessary to prevent the pregnant woman's death or serious risk of the substantial and irreversible impairment of a major bodily function of the pregnant woman.

ACOG recognizes the issue of pregnancy termination is a matter of profound moral conviction to its members. We also respect the needs and responsibilities of patients and their physicians to determine their individual positions based on personal values and beliefs.

ACOG supports women's access to all legal medical care, including family planning, contraception, and pregnancy outcome determinations. We oppose any attempt to come between a patient and her physician. The provision of medical care must be a matter determined by the patient and her physician, subject to the physician's clinical judgment, the patient's informed consent, and the availability of appropriate facilities.

ACOG opposes legislation or other requirements which single out abortion services from other outpatient procedures. For example, ACOG opposes laws or other regulations that require abortion providers to have hospital admitting privileges or otherwise restrict them from having such privileges. ACOG also opposes facility regulations that are more stringent for abortion than for other surgical procedures.

We are committed to ensuring women's health and oppose any proposal to limit women's access to medical care and any limits on the ability of physicians to provide safe legal medical care. We encourage you not to limit access for women seeking medical treatment or the ability of physicians to practice in this state.