

**Dr. Sharon Liner**  
**Opponent Testimony**  
**Senate Bill 23**  
**Ohio Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee**  
**Wednesday, February 26, 2019**

Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Antonio and Members of the Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to provide my written testimony today. My name is Dr. Sharon Liner. I am a family physician who has dedicated my practice to reproductive health. I am writing to strongly oppose the Senate Bill 23 six week abortion ban.

Abortion is a procedure that no one wants to have to have, but there are times for many when it becomes needed – 1 in 4 in fact. The reason for the need does not matter. You must trust women, including the women you love and care about, to have the ability to know what is best for them and their families. This law also will not stop or even reduce abortion. We know that where abortion is illegal or unobtainable, termination rates stay the same or are higher. What will change is the risk women will face in having to seek care from an illegal provider or the expense and time to travel to where it is still legal and available. Supporters of this bill may try to argue that there is never a need for abortion but we who see pregnant patients know this is not the case. Pregnancy is not a zero risk condition. The trust in how to manage this must be placed with the pregnant person and her medical providers and all options for management must be available.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote no on this devastatingly unconstitutional bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,  
**Sharon Liner, MD**  
**Medical Director**  
Planned Parenthood Southwest Ohio Region