

Bridget Watson
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 Senate Health, Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Bridget Watson. I am a medical student in Ohio. I am strongly opposed to SB 23.

As a medical student, I see many patients who are female and of reproductive age, and could therefore be affected by this bill. This legislation aims to ban abortion after 6 weeks, which is such an early point in the pregnancy many women are not aware they are even pregnant yet. Protection of a woman's right to abortion access has long been protected by the Roe v. Wade and this bill directly conflicts the long-set precedent. In contrast to what many people believe, abortion procedures are medically very safe, with only a 0.05% complication rate. This bill would take away the woman's right to make her own medical decision before she would even know she had a medical decision to make.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote *NO* on this *harmful* bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Bridget Watson