To the Ohio Senate Committee:

I am writing to supporters of the six-week abortion ban not to change your opinion on abortion itself, for I know that to try and alter the fully-formed belief systems of mature adults is an uphill battle that can rarely be won. I write to ask that you keep abortion access as it is currently in consideration of the moral, religious, and personal beliefs of others that favor the life of a pregnant woman over an unborn fetus. The bill you wish to pass acts in favor only of *your* beliefs. Isn’t the fairest law one that reflects and protects the interests of the majority rather than just one group? Safe and legal access to abortion through the second trimester forces no one to have an abortion who is against it and does not in any way threaten their personal ideologies. But by restricting this access, you will obstruct the individual and religious freedoms of other groups of people, which is hypocritical in terms of what the Republican Party, as I know most of you in support of the bill are part of, stands for. As an example, I would like to tell you what Rabbi Raymond A. Zwerin and Rabbi Richard J. Shapiro say are the guiding principles of abortion in Jewish tradition:

A woman’s life, her pain, and her concerns take precedence over those of the fetus; existing life is always sacred and takes precedence over a potential life; and a woman has the personal freedom to apply the principles of her tradition unfettered by the legal imposition of moral standards other than her own (<http://rcrc.org/jewish/>).

When we chip away at these individual and religious liberties, we teeter on the edge of fascism. Please make the right decision in protecting the moral, religious, and personal beliefs **of all** by voting no on the six-week abortion ban.

Sincerely,

Mara Biggs