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Proponent Testimony on Senate Bill 155

Senate Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee

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Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today on Senate Bill 155.

I chose abortion. On 2/16/17 I walked into an abortion clinic. I had made the appointment 4 days prior. For personal reasons, I decided that this was best for me. I fully accepted my decision and the consequences to come. The thing I remember most is the floors. Where the floor and wall meet were piles of dirt all around the room. The second thing I remember is the energy in the building. No one was sad. No one was remorseful. It was just something they had to do.

Same.

I waited for hours. I was sure of my decision. It's my body. My life. My choice. I was finally called back to the office. I had to sign a form saying no one forced me to abort my baby. I decided on a medical abortion rather than surgical. This is done in a few steps. You take one pill in the office. This pill stops the production of progesterone, which is what nourishes a growing baby until the placenta takes over around 10 weeks. The lack of progesterone causes the baby to starve & stops the tiny little heartbeat. The second pill is taken at home 24 hours later. This one causes cramps and the baby to be expelled. That was my plan. I was prepared. The doctor confirmed gestation with an ultrasound. I asked to see the screen. I saw the flicker of the heart and felt a little sick. Next was the talk-what to expect, what to do if something goes wrong, making sure I'm 100% sure this is what I want. I didn't look at him during the talk. I couldn't take my eyes off the dirt in the corners. He gave me a bag with the medication to take home and one pill that he would watch me swallow. I did. I couldn't see. I couldn't breathe. I couldn't hear. I think he was talking to me, but I grabbed my things and ran outside. I tried to throw up. I did a bad thing. I pulled over twice on my way home. I still couldn't see. I googled, "regret taking abortion pill", "only took first abortion pill", "don't want to take second abortion pill." I came across abortionpillreversal.com. Reluctant, but desperate for help, I called the number to ask for

help. I was connected to a nurse who connected me with Dr. Hartman. He called in an emergency prescription 12 hours after I took the abortion pill and made an appointment for me to see him in the morning. The prescription was progesterone, the hormone I had stopped with the first pill. This is an experimental process to help people who feel that they made a mistake after taking the abortion pill. The goal is to overload your body with progesterone to make up for what your body doesn't make. The success rate is about 60%. It requires daily injections and lots of doctor visits.

Over 900 babies have been saved since the experiment started in 2012, mine included.

I was at my lowest point that year, but thanks to Dr. Hartman and the supporters of abortionpillreversal.com, I have found true happiness. I hope word will get out and everyone will know that this is an option.

If abortion is what you choose, I will love you and support you through it. But if, like me, you realize you made a mistake, there are options. There are people who want to help.

Creating an end may not be the best way out. A new beginning was mine.

Gavin Maverick is the light of my life. He loves music and dancing. He gives the sweetest kisses. Every day I get to look at him I'm reminded of God's great mercy and that it's never too late to ask for forgiveness. Please help us spread the news of this option to other mothers who need help and don't know where to look.