

Chairwoman Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, ranking Member Liston and members of the House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee, thank you for allowing my testimony regarding Senate Bill (SB) 157.

I am a physician in Dayton, Ohio with 18 years of experience following medical school. My expertise is in the field of Diagnostic Radiology, with a particular interest in women's imaging and OB ultrasound.

I would like to express my support for the *Born Alive Infant Protection Act*. As a radiologist, I see firsthand the humanity of the innocent lives at stake. The mark of a civilized society is how it treats its weakest and most vulnerable members. A baby who miraculously survives an abortion attempt is by definition vulnerable. The least we can do as a civilized society is to protect this innocent life.

Our society considers it acceptable to protect a prematurely born baby that is "wanted", going to any length to protect that life. In fact, there is an entire specialty devoted to this type of medical care (neonatology).

Why then is it deemed acceptable to deny care to an infant born alive that is considered to be "unwanted"? Since when did we decide to allocate medical care based on circumstances that one cannot control? A baby cannot control the scenario in which it is born.

Denying medical care to an innocent life goes against everything we learn in medicine. This faulty logic would not apply to any other area of medicine. Would a physician deny a toddler or older child life saving care if the parents were negligent and the child was not deemed "wanted"? Of course not. Even end of life Hospice patients receive medical care to ease the suffering they endure.

Furthermore, I support the prohibition of physicians employed by state funded universities and institutions from providing support to abortion facilities. Abortion is a very contentious issue, and should be far removed from any type of tax payer funded institution.

I urge you to pass this bill keeping in mind all of the innocent lives it could protect.

Respectfully,

Lezlie Kuebker, MD