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Outgoing Executive Director of Pregnancy Solutions

Testimony in Support of Sub. SB157

House Families, Aging & Human Services Committee

November 18, 2021

Chairman Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, Ranking Member Liston & committee members:

Thank you for allowing me to submit my written testimony in support of SB157 known as the Born-Alive Infant Protection Act.

I am a husband and father of 3 daughters. My family is the most important thing to me and perhaps you would say the same thing about yours.

As the Executive Director of Pregnancy Solutions, a Pregnancy Medical Center located in Akron, Ohio our mission is to protect the lives of the unborn while championing the lives of his or her mother and father.

In the 25 years of our organization, we have served over 15,000 clients offering them love, compassion, hope and truth. During that same duration of time, we have seen over 3,000 babies saved from the brutal act of abortion.

My favorite part of my job is to get to know people. As a Christian, I believe we are all made in the image of God, created equal. No matter age, race, ethnicity, social-economic class, religious preference, we are all humans first and that is the ultimate equalizer.

Life is a gift from God and is sacred which is why I believe ALL LIFE should be protected from the womb to the tomb.

I have yet to meet a couple, who was pursuing an abortion that changed their mind as a result of our services, that came back to us regretful and disappointed as they showed off their newborn son or newborn daughter to us.

I have yet to meet a couple with their newborn held in their arms, ask if they could trade it in for a puppy or a cat because of the late-night feedings and exhaustion that has taken over their bodies.

I have yet to meet a mother, say “I wish I would have chosen abortion,” while they stare at the beautiful face of their newborn baby.

None of these scenarios have ever played out with the thousands of women who choose LIFE for their baby instead of DEATH.

Many come back with tears in their eyes filled with deep gratitude for our efforts to help them see the beautiful gift she carried inside her womb just months prior.

I know many on the other side of this bill will argue that the numbers are so LOW or so RARE that this bill isn't worth advancing into law.

To them, I ask: *Who of us can determine what human life is rare or not?*

The human fingerprint is one of the most unique aspects of ourselves. No two human fingerprints are the same.

To these small babies who are born alive after a failed abortion and left to die, I ask you .. what fingerprints will not be able to be put around the world as a result of their heinous death on a medical exam table or even while inside a trash can?

*What artists will there not be?*

*What doctors will there not be?*

*What teachers will there not be?*

*What politicians will there not be?*

Today we sit inside this beautiful room, healthy and happy with every opportunity to enjoy life.

But in medical rooms across Ohio, there may be a baby who is gasping for their first breath of life outside his or her mother's womb and is moments away from dying. Why? Because a doctor can refuse life-saving services to that baby.

I would swim across an ocean to save one of my daughter's life. If you have children, I hope you would say the same.

Today I ask to take a stand and save the life a baby you may never know their name.

I ask for your support in the SB157 bill Born Alive Infant Protection Act. To ensure that as it is passed, those babies who survive an abortion will not be left die, but have a chance to live. And that is a gift no human being should be able to take away.

Thank you.