

Chairman/woman Rep Manchester, Vice Chair Cutrona, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Families, Aging & Human Services Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to read my written testimony. My name is Anita Somani MD. I am an OB/GYN who has been in practice in Columbus, Ohio since 1992. During that time, I have delivered thousands of babies. I am strongly opposed to SB157 for many reasons.

Abortion is illegal after 20 weeks and there have been very few successful resuscitations for a fetus under 24 weeks in my career. The literature would also support this. Many resuscitations have been attempted between 22 and 24 weeks because of family wishes but even if those fetuses are intubated the survival rate is dismal and 80% die within the first few weeks of life. We do not have endotracheal tubes small enough for fetuses below this gestational age so you would be subjecting neonatologists and nurse practitioners to a law that could not be followed.

As chairperson of the Physician's Action Network, I am also opposing this bill as a representative of this group of physicians. I would encourage you to look at the science and medical data and oppose SB157

Thank you very much,
Anita Somani MD