



Center FOR Christian Virtue

Public Policy. Engagement. Education.

To: Chair Scott Lipps
Vice Chair Adam Holmes
Ranking Member Beth Liston
House Health Committee

From: Nilani Jawahar
Legislative Liaison
Center for Christian Virtue

Re: Support for HB 378

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chairman Holmes, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the House Health Committee,

My name is Nilani Jawahar and I come before you today on behalf of Center for Christian Virtue, Ohio's largest Christian public policy organization to advocate for HB 378, also known as the Abortion Pill Reversal Notification Act, which aims to ensure that women considering abortion are fully informed of their choices.

A chemical abortion is a two-drug regimen for terminating a pregnancy that is taken up to 10 weeks of gestation. It works by first taking the drug mifepristone, which blocks the production of progesterone, which is the hormone a woman's body produces naturally in order to nurture and sustain her pregnancy. 24-72 hours after mifepristone is taken, the second drug, misoprostol, is taken to cause the woman's uterus to contract and expel her baby.

Abortion pill reversal is an intervention procedure which can be administered in that 24-72 hour time slot after the woman has ingested the first pill and before she has ingested the second. What occurs during abortion pill reversal is the woman ingests bioidentical progesterone to outnumber and out-compete the mifepristone in order to reverse its effects. This has been effective for 64%¹-68%² of the mothers who start the abortion pill reversal process.³ I volunteer with my local pregnancy center and they have actually had some of these success stories so I personally have seen our clients and their babies benefit from this procedure.

¹ Intramuscular progesterone.

² High dose oral progesterone.

³ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30831017/>



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Progesterone has been safely used in pregnancy for over 50 years. Many pregnant women with high risk for miscarriage are treated with progesterone throughout their first trimester. Opponents of this legislation point to a statement by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) that claims that abortion pill reversal is “not supported by science.” Yet, the same organization, ACOG, published a bulletin in October 2020 warning abortion providers not to administer Depo Provera on the same day they administer mifepristone. Depo Provera is a form of birth control that artificially stimulates progesterone production. ACOG states that Depo Provera can reduce the efficacy of the chemical abortion and increase the chances of embryonic and fetal survival by four times, even after the woman has taken the second pill, misoprostol. They say that patients should be informed that taking Depo Provera on the same day they begin the chemical abortion regimen may “increase the risk of ongoing pregnancy.”⁴

I emphasize this point because unfortunately medicine in our day has become highly politicized, and there is no guarantee that a doctor performing abortions will provide women with the necessary information. When their goal is to sell abortions, it cuts against their interest to make women aware of the fact that they may change their mind, like the 100+ women who call the Abortion Pill Rescue Network hotline every month. Therefore, in the interest of patient protection and women’s rights, the General Assembly must intervene.

I’d also like to ask all of you parents who sit on this committee, if your child was dying, if there was an opportunity to potentially save their life, even if it wasn’t guaranteed, wouldn’t you want to know about it?

For this reason, I urge the committee to favorably report HB 378, and I’m happy to answer any questions you may have for me. Thank you.

The Center for Christian Virtue (CCV) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that endeavors to create an Ohio where God’s blessings of life, family, and religious freedom are treasured, respected, and protected.

www.ccv.org -- (513) 733-5775

⁴ <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/practice-bulletin/articles/2020/10/medication-abortion-up-to-70-days-of-gestation>