

Ohio. The Heart of it All. The Buckeye State. First in Flight. Birth place of aviation. America's Heartland. Inventors Hall of Fame. Mother of Presidents. With God, all things are possible. And, this is also an official slogan of our state.....At least we're not Michigan!

According to Clint Bolick, a well-known and honored past Arizona Supreme Court Justice, he wrote, "It is part of the masterpiece of federalism that each of us in the 50 states can look for the protection of our rights not to one constitution but two." We of course are protected by our US Constitution it is stated in the 14th amendment, "nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property."

And as Judge Bolick stated, we are protected by 2 Constitutions. The purpose of a state constitution is to protect the citizens of the state. In Ohio, Article 1, Section 1 of our State Constitution it states, "All men are, by nature, free and independent, and have certain inalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty."

And we know that in our Declaration of Independence, our nation's founding document, that "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"

For the past two years, the state of Ohio has had more people die than born. In 2021, 144,295 Ohioans died, in 2022 143,349 Ohioans died. In addition to these deaths, combined, in 2021 and 2022, there were over 40,000 abortions of Ohio babies through 22 weeks.

Ohio has seen our statewide population shrink for 2 straight years, for the first time in state history, more people died here than were born...and our population shrunk. We are losing our most precious resource, PEOPLE.

Because in Ohio, we are protected by 2 constitutions, and because our state is experiencing loss of life and tragic abortion numbers, which

contribute to this loss of life, we must do all we can as citizens and lawmakers to protect life here at home. It is our obligation to do so.

Moving the voting threshold to 60% would protect life in Ohio and not allow groups from outside of our beautiful state to advance the killing of Ohio infant children in the womb, our most precious natural resource.

Representatives, I call upon you as leaders in our state, to move quickly to pass HJR 1, which would protect the lives of Ohio citizens.

The most expedient issue at hand is to protect life in Ohio.

I worked full-time for 10 years in Cincinnati serving families in unexpected pregnancies. I lost count at the number of women I met that shared “abortion cannot be that bad, it is legal.” While I taught them what a horrible unjust law it was that moms could be sold the death of their child as “healthcare”, and that someday the law would be overturned, the culture of death had already saturated their thinking with the normalcy of a mom shredding their preborn child.

While many of these moms chose life, many did not and would come back to me weeping...”Why did I not listen to you?” “Why did I do this?” “How is this legal?” “Why don’t people do something to stop this?”

Committee members, I request you move swiftly on HJR 1, the effort to align Ohio’s constitution with over 30 other states, and of course the US Constitution. This move would protect life in Ohio.