(135th General Assembly) (Senate Resolution Number 215)

A RESOLUTION

To oppose the proposed constitutional amendment Issue 1.

Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Ohio:

WHEREAS, On November 7, 2023, an issue entitled "The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety" will appear on the statewide ballot as Issue 1; and

WHEREAS, Human life is precious and must be protected; and

WHEREAS, Health and safety protections for women are of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, Parents are the ultimate arbiter of what is best for their children; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 will undermine human life and enshrine the right to end life in our state's Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 ignores Ohio's already existing exceptions for the life and health of the mother in favor of establishing the right to abortion-on-demand through all nine months by allowing for-profit abortion providers to make the final call on all abortion procedures, standards, and timing; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 will eliminate many, if not all, state laws regarding abortion, including parental notification requirements; the prohibition on abortion by dismemberment; laws preventing painful, late-term abortions; laws disallowing abortion based on a child's characteristics; and laws prohibiting abortions when a child is removed alive during an abortion procedure; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 may erase parental rights by ending parental notification and preventing parents from being involved in the most important decisions in their child's life, including abortions; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 would instead allow for-profit abortion providers to pressure children into these decisions behind closed doors and without their parents; and

WHEREAS, Issue 1 eliminates many basic health and safety protections for women, including requiring that abortions be performed in person by a licensed doctor who can transfer a woman to a hospital if something goes wrong during a procedure; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the State of Ohio, urge the citizens of Ohio to vote against Issue 1 as a dangerous and irresponsible constitutional amendment that will undermine the current rights and protections of unborn children, women, and parents; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the news media of Ohio.

President _____ of the Senate.

Adopted _____, 20____