



Ohio House Health Committee
HB324: Proponent Testimony
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Chairman Schmidt, Vice Chair Deeter, Ranking Member Somani, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Ohio Right to Life, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 324, the *Patient Protection Act*.

This legislation speaks directly to a growing public health crisis in our state: the reckless distribution of dangerous, high-risk drugs without proper medical oversight. These are medications known to cause severe and life-threatening complications—including death, organ failure, sepsis, hemorrhaging, and infections—impacting more than 5% of those who use them. Far too often, the most vulnerable patients are left to navigate these risks alone, with little to no direct medical supervision.

At the heart of this legislation is the protection of women and children from dangerous drugs—most notably, chemical abortion pills. These drugs are increasingly pushed through the mail or prescribed after a brief telehealth call, with no physical examination, no follow-up care, and no real accountability. This is not health care. It is abandonment.

The reality is that chemical abortion is a high-risk drug regimen. Studies confirm that it can cause severe complications for a significant percentage of women—a recent study by the Ethics & Public Policy Center shows that Mifepristone has a nearly 11% rate of adverse reactions. Yet today, women across Ohio can order these pills online, have them delivered to their mailbox, and be left completely alone to face the physical and emotional consequences.

House Bill 324 restores a standard of care that should be common sense: requiring an in-person examination before prescribing these high-risk drugs and ensuring proper follow-up care. By prohibiting mail-order distribution of such medications, the bill closes a dangerous loophole that allows powerful drugs to be shipped to women's homes without so much as a conversation with a physician.

This legislation is not about restricting access to legitimate care. It is about demanding accountability, transparency, and safety. Cancer patients and others already receive consistent,



specialized oversight from their doctors, and this bill complements—not disrupts—those standards of care. Instead, it focuses on closing gaps that endanger lives, particularly in the realm of mail-order and do-it-yourself medicine.

Ohio has both the authority and the responsibility to protect its citizens from these risks. By empowering the Director of Health, along with our state’s medical and pharmacy boards, to maintain a public list of high-risk drugs, House Bill 324 ensures that Ohioans will have the information they need and the protections they deserve.

At Ohio Right to Life, we believe every woman deserves real medical care and every patient deserves to be protected from profit-driven practices that treat their lives as expendable. House Bill 324 is a critical safeguard for women, families, and vulnerable patients across Ohio.

We respectfully urge this committee to support the Patient Protection Act and to stand with us in protecting the health and safety of Ohioans.

Thank you for your time and your commitment to life. Please do not hesitate to contact me with follow-up questions at KDeLand@ohiolife.org