



Ohio House Medicaid Committee
HB410: Proponent Testimony
Katie DeLand, Legislative Director
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Chair Gross, Vice Chair Barhorst, Ranking Member Baker, and members of the House Medicaid Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 410 on behalf of Ohio Right to Life.

As you may recall, earlier this year the General Assembly made a historic investment in Ohio's pregnancy resource centers by allocating \$20 million in Sub-House Bill 96. On behalf of our organization and the women and families we serve, thank you for this commitment. That investment is a large part of why I stand before you today. House Bill 410 builds directly on this work, drawing a clear line: while Ohio will invest in prenatal and family resources, we will not finance abortion services that end a child's life.

While federal law already restricts the direct use of Medicaid dollars for abortion, loopholes remain. Abortion providers continue to receive taxpayer support through reimbursements for related services, administrative overhead, and referral activities. Last week, the Ohio Department of Health released their annual report on Induced Abortions in Ohio, which showed an increase in out-of-state abortions (over 3000 cases in 2024) performed here in Ohio for the third year in a row. Taxpayer dollars should never be used—directly or indirectly—to facilitate the destruction of human life, and even moreso on out-of-state residents traveling to Ohio for abortive services. Redirecting these funds away from abortion providers ensures that Ohio's resources are invested in true health care and life-affirming services, like the pregnancy resource centers that received funding earlier this summer.

Just three weeks ago, Ohio Right to Life sent a letter to Governor DeWine, signed by thirty of our chapters across the state, urging him to take this same action by Executive Order. House Bill 410 achieves the same outcome through legislation: prohibiting state funds from flowing to abortion-related facilities and solidifying Ohio's position as a state that cherishes life and provides real solutions for families in need.

Again, thank you for your investment in the centers that truly support women and children in our state. On behalf of Ohio Right to Life, I respectfully ask for your support and timely passage of House Bill 410.