

Thank you for the opportunity to present today in favor of SB 214. I am an OB/GYN physician who has spent the last 31 years serving the needs of women. I am a wife, a mother of three adults, a sister to 13 siblings, ten of whom are girls!

Physicians have been charged since the beginning of time with **healing** and **improving** the lives of our patients. **Hippocrates**, the Father of Modern Medicine eloquently stated, and I swore at the start of my medical career 31 years ago, an oath, a promise - "***I will neither prescribe nor administer a lethal dose of medicine to any patient, even if asked, nor counsel any such thing, nor perform these acts. I will have the utmost respect for every human life, from fertilization to natural death and reject abortion that deliberately takes a human life.***"

Three decades ago, Planned Parenthood did indeed provide primary wellness care for a minority of uninsured college-age women who could not afford care elsewhere. Today, as a result of the comprehensive coverage from the Affordable Care Act, these same women receive care from their pediatricians, their Family doctors and their OB/GYN's under their parent's plans. As physicians, we care for their grandmothers, their mothers and will hopefully, someday care for their daughters. The differences in the care provided by our practices versus what is provided by Planned Parenthood are three. The first, we provide **continuity** that allows us to see them in their difficult times and beyond. Second, this sacred doctor-patient relationship allows us to **serve them** and not view them as profit centers. Third, we consider the **physical, emotional and spiritual long-term needs** of our patients and are able to help guide them through difficult decisions based upon what is best for them in the long-term. Planned Parenthood does not provide continuity, sacred relationships or a vocational duty to protect the long-term needs of their patients. Women will be better served in Community Health Centers and private offices and hospital Clinics where informed consent is sincere, where options are comprehensive and where they are viewed as human beings, not dollar signs.

Planned Parenthood ignores safety standards such as transport, credentialing and safety requirements, designed to keep women safe.

Planned Parenthood ignores the safety of minors as well as the safety of victims of sexual abuse.

Planned Parenthood conceals complications in order to avoid media discovery, often to the detriment of the patient.

Planned Parenthood has defied the American Medical Association's Code of Ethics, specifically the clause stating, "*...only the potential donor, and not the donor's family or any third party, may be given the option of accepting financial incentives for organ donation.*"

Planned Parenthood espouses concern for research to cure cancer, Alzheimer's disease, etc., when the AMA specifically iterates that "*... the physician's interest in advancing scientific knowledge through research, MUST ALWAYS be secondary to his or her concern for the patient, the donor.*" Ending one life with certainty, in order to potentially save another is NEVER acceptable.

Planned Parenthood continues to foster the idea that men of good conscience have no business or right to even comment on the issue of abortion. What passes as "empowerment of women" actually enslaves them and leaves them alone in their greatest hour of need.

In closing, I ask that you put aside your divisions. This is not about Republican versus Democrat, woman versus man, poor versus rich or black versus white. This is about our very humanity and future. Thank you.