

# CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF OHIO

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## Testimony in Support of SB 23: The Heartbeat Bill

March 19, 2019

My name is Jim Tobin. I am an associate director with the Catholic Conference of Ohio.

The Catholic Conference of Ohio supports passage of SB 23, the Heartbeat bill. This version of the bill generally prohibits a person from aborting an unborn child whose fetal heartbeat has been detected (usually around 10 weeks). The bill also establishes the Joint Legislative Committee on Adoption Promotion and Support.

The Catholic Church teaches that every child, at every moment of existence, deserves love and the protection of the law. We do not believe any person or government has the right to take the life of an innocent human being.

The Heartbeat bill will challenge the current legal precedents to abortion. With new changes in the United States Supreme Court, it is our sincere hope that this legislation will withstand constitutional challenge and be implemented in order to save lives.

Thank you for this opportunity.