

**Sarah Wagner**  
**Opponent Testimony**  
**Senate Bill 23**  
**Ohio Senate Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee**  
**Wednesday, February 26, 2019**

Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Antonio and Members of the Health, Human Services and Medicaid Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Sarah Wagner. I am a medical student in Ohio. I am strongly opposed to SB 23.

As a future healthcare professional, I believe that all patients have a right to autonomy including women who are making decisions about their reproductive health. 90% of women not seeking pregnancy are use contraception. Despite this, up to half of the pregnancies in the United States are unintended. Abortion is a safe and common procedure. The risk of death from an abortion is approximately 14 times higher with childbirth than abortion. This bill will ban abortion at six weeks, a time when many women don't even know they're pregnant, meaning that these women won't even have a chance to make an informed decision about their pregnancy before the decision is made for them.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this harmful and dangerous bill.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Wagner