



JEAN SCHMIDT  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Chairman Wilkin, Vice Chair White, Ranking Member Brown, and members of the House Government Oversight Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 598 – the Human Life Protection Act. Every year, hundreds of thousands of innocent lives are taken from this world by abortion. In Ohio alone, nearly 21,000 unborn children are unjustly killed every year. This has to stop. The time has come for Ohio to truly stand up for the rights of the unborn.

The Human Life Protection Act will go into effect and ban abortion in Ohio when one of the following conditional precedents is met: *Roe v. Wade* is overturned

by the United States Supreme Court or there is an amendment to the United States Constitution giving power back to the states to prohibit abortion. Conditional precedents are constitutional and have been upheld by the Ohio Supreme Court.

I would like to be clear about what this bill does and does not do. It does not penalize the woman on whom the abortion is performed. Rather, it provides them immunity. The penalty, which is a fourth-degree felony, is only against someone who *performs* an abortion. Doctors who been found guilty will have their license revoked.

The bill includes an exception in order to save the life of the mother. Two doctors not professionally related must sign off on the abortion. Unless it is determined the mother is at risk of death or injury, they must take every care and precaution to save both the child and the mother. If the premature child is alive, the doctors must provide

care for it. The goal is to save both lives and treat both patients.

Finally, chemical abortions will also be banned. Abortion-inducing drugs and medicine with the specific purpose of being used in an abortion are not allowed to be manufactured or sold. This will not apply to those drugs that have other medical uses, nor does it include contraceptives. This does not go after the manufacturer, nor does it go off all medical equipment. Simply put, if it will be used for an abortion alone and not for another medical use, it will not be allowed.

13 states have enacted legislation similar to this: Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming. 7 pre-*Roe* bans are still in place in Alabama, Arizona, Michigan, New Mexico, Oklahoma, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. It is time that Ohio joins them. Life begins at conception and

continues until natural death. We cannot deny the unborn their natural, God-given, and constitutional right to life. I ask for your support to protect the unborn.

Thank you and I will take any questions you may have.