



# Center FOR Christian Virtue

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To: Chair Kristina Roegner  
Vice Chair Rob McColley  
Ranking Member Hearcel Craig  
Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee

From: Nilani Jawahar  
Legislative Liaison  
Center for Christian Virtue

Re: Support for SB 157

Chair Roegner, Vice Chair McColley, Ranking Member Craig, and members of the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee,

My name is Nilani Jawahar and I am here on behalf of the Center for Christian Virtue, Ohio's largest Christian public policy organization. I am pleased to be here today in support of SB 157, also known as the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which aims to protect children who are born alive after attempted abortions.

It is difficult to say when exactly a fetus is viable, or capable of living outside the womb, because every child is different and some can survive outside the womb earlier than others. Nevertheless, according to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, a fetus can be considered "perivable" as early as 20-25 weeks.<sup>1</sup> "Perivable" means there is a slim chance of survival, but a chance nonetheless. In 2019, the Ohio Department of Health reported that there were a total of 356 abortions performed at 19 weeks of gestation or more.<sup>2</sup> This means that in 2019 we in Ohio neglected 356 children who may have been able to have meaningful lives outside their mother's wombs, but were not given the opportunity to do so.

If anyone ever tells you that instances of children surviving abortions are rare, they may be right, but that speaks more to the thorough nature of modern abortion procedures than to the strength of the baby to live despite efforts to end her life. If a baby does survive an

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/obstetric-care-consensus/articles/2017/10/perivable-birth>

<sup>2</sup> [https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/0f7c1255-2e85-4982-8cab-cc81dbebee2/Induced+Abortions+in+Ohio+2019+Final+10-1-20.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT\\_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18\\_M1HGGIK0N0JO00QO9DDDDM3000-0f7c1255-2e85-4982-8cab-cc81dbebee2-njBM0ny](https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/0f7c1255-2e85-4982-8cab-cc81dbebee2/Induced+Abortions+in+Ohio+2019+Final+10-1-20.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_M1HGGIK0N0JO00QO9DDDDM3000-0f7c1255-2e85-4982-8cab-cc81dbebee2-njBM0ny)



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abortion, I think she has proved that she is determined to live, and we ought to honor that and require that doctors do everything in their power to keep her alive and healthy, just as they would for any other baby.

Thank you once again for allowing me to speak on behalf of this important bill. If the committee has any questions for me, I will do my best to answer them.

*The Center for Christian Virtue (CCV) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that endeavors to create an Ohio where God's blessings of life, family, and religious freedom are treasured, respected, and protected.*

*[www.ccv.org](http://www.ccv.org) -- (513) 733-5775*