

Anthony J. Joseph, MD
Proponent Testimony on House Bill 149
Health Committee
Wednesday May 3, 2017

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Gavarone, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Health Committee thank you for the opportunity to testify today of behalf of House Bill 149.

With extensive experience within healthcare, I can attest that ambiguity is the enemy of all healthcare providers, insurers, and others including patients themselves. House Bill 149 eliminates ambiguity by making a clear statement about the illegality of selling aborted baby body parts. Furthermore, House Bill 149 aligns well with prior Ohio legislation and standardizes penalties for violation of the law.

With the passage of House Bill 149, providers and those responsible for billing practices will have distinct unambiguous laws concerning selling aborted baby body parts. Our judicial will have a law that provides uniform treatment of offenders. Our patients and their families can rest comfortably assured that regardless of their individual beliefs about the morality of abortion itself, the products of conception will be treated with dignity and respect befitting the unborn child.

Chairman Huffman, thank you once more this opportunity to provide proponent testimony on behalf of House Bill 149. I am available for or questions or additional commentary at your pleasure.