

Written Testimony Against Ohio House Bill 149  
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This Bill is unnecessary and duplicative, based on false information, and the language is inflammatory.

**It is unnecessary**

Ohio already has regulations banning the experimentation or sale of embryonic and fetal tissue (ORC 3701-47-05). Annual investigations of Ohio abortion clinics by the Ohio Department of Health finds no evidence of the sale of embryonic or fetal tissue. There are already federal laws in place that prohibit clinics and providers from financially gaining from their participation in fetal tissue donation. Preterm and other abortion clinics follow federal and state laws governing embryonic and fetal tissue disposal.

**The Bill was developed based on false information**

After a thorough investigation of clinics in Ohio, Mike DeWine did not find any evidence of the sale of fetal tissue. The impetus for the investigation was based on information obtained from the Center for Medical Progress, a fake company run by David Daleiden, a man who is now facing fifteen felony charges for his illegal actions obtaining videos from both Planned Parenthood and the National Abortion Federation.

**The language of this Bill is inflammatory and its only purpose is to further stigmatize a woman who has an abortion and the physician who provides abortion care.**

A person who provides abortion care is a licensed physician, not an “abortionist”. The language and subject of this legislation is inflammatory and seeks to provide a solution to a non-existent problem.

We need to respect each woman’s ability to make the deeply personal decision to have an abortion and allow her to make decision in accordance with her family, faith, and her doctor.

This Bill is not meant to protect women and their families, but part of an effort from anti-abortion activists who want to make all abortion illegal. They are using scare tactics and false information to scare people into passing more unnecessary laws. They use inflammatory terms in this bill, like “abortionist,” which is not a medical term, to further their goals.

**Establishing policy based on false information provided by anti-choice extremists is a bad precedent.**

Instead of focusing on these unnecessary laws that demonize medical professionals, politicians should focus on promoting laws build strong communities and support women and their families.