Lori Zimmer Senate Bill 23 – Six-Week Abortion Ban Opponent Testimony Ohio House Health Committee March 26, 2019

Chairman Merrin, Vice Chair Manning, Ranking Boyd, and Members of the Ohio House Committee,

I was raped in 1988 at the age of 21 and got pregnant. It was with the support of Planned Parenthood, not some backward law banning abortions, which helped me to make my decision, my decision.

I made the decision to keep and raise my child. I didn't have a "forced" birth. I had, for me, made the right choice, to raise my child. If I didn't have the love and support from my family, perhaps my decision would have been different. The point is, my body, my choice. I'm pleading with you to do the right thing. Vote against banning abortions. Vote for funding Planned Parenthood.

Reach beyond your neighborhood and visit a Planned Parenthood facility. See for yourselves what wonderful work they actually are doing. These facilities must remain open. Please do your part to make sure people have access to Planned Parenthood, no matter the reason for their visit.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my testimony. I urge you to vote no on Senate Bill 23, the six-week abortion ban.

Lori Zimmer Reading, Ohio