Chairman Burke, Senator Roegner,members of the Senate Committee- My name is Deborah Peterson ,I'm an Ohio citizen and grandmother of 8. This is my daughter's testimony and mine.

My daughter's testimony-

I believe every human life has the right to live as long as or as well as possible no matter age,size,ability,or gender. I am a mom to 4 great kids and one angel baby in Heaven.

My husband and I found out at 8 weeks gestation that our little baby would more than likely not survive to be born full term. They determined from the ultrasound diagnosis that he had a cystic hygroma growing on his back and he had severe infant hydrops (in other words his skin was like a spacesuit full of water and he had a fluid filled sack growing along his back and neck) which was preventing several organs and brain from developing normally due to the pressure. Doctors told me he would not ever survive outside of the womb and believed the cause was a chromosome defect called Trisomy 18. They said there was no treatment or cure and advised us to terminate the pregnancy immediately. (abort him)

We of course refused and said we would give him a chance at life no matter how short. We loved watching him on ultrasound,he was comfortable and happy in utero, swimming,kicking,flipping,sucking his thumb,and sleeping.

We had weekly scans which they just called heartbeat checks because every time I showed up they were surprised that I was even still pregnant. We just waited patiently in hopes of a miracle and enjoyed seeing him at every scan.

By 17 weeks his little heart gave out and we got to see our little one on Feb.8 2015. He was fully developed and was the size of my hand;he had teeny tiny ears,fingers,toes,everything.It was worth the heartbreak of losing him knowing we gave him a chance and that he never knew pain or discomfort. He was so loved and every minute his heart beat was a miracle and gift from God.

Every life no matter how small deserves a chance at life and every single baby is a miracle in itself!

What my daughter did not say is although we did not receive a miracle for Micah as far as being born alive full-term, 2 years later almost to the day,Feb.9,2017 Kelly gave birth to Miles Daniel, now a healthy,rambunctious,absolutely delightful two-year old who adores his grandma. There are several options for the safe care of an unwanted baby-adoption,family intervention; murder is not one of them. Please vote yes for SB 23 The Heartbeat Bill. Thankyou.