

Chair Burke, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Minority Member Antonio, and members of the Ohio Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee.

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Anne Hurley, and I am strongly opposed to SB 155 because people seeking abortion care need their doctors' honest medical advice, not politically-driven misinformation.

I was raised in a family that opposed abortion and parroted the unscientific extremist positions about reproductive health care. I also have congestive heart failure, and if I were to become pregnant, the stresses on my body would endanger my life. When I have needed reproductive health care, I have depended on my doctors as a source of unbiased, medically sound information. The first doctor who helped me make reproductive health care choices for myself actually printed out current medical studies and gave them to me to read so that I could study them, come back with questions, and make an educated choice. She did not try to sway me to make the decision she thought best. She helped me choose for myself.

My body makes it impossible for me to carry a pregnancy to term; that choice is not open to me. What I do get to choose is how to live with that. For me to stay alive, I need access to safe, legal, unstigmatized abortion and the full spectrum of reproductive health care, especially reliable medical advice.

Your choice, Chair and members of the committee, is whether medical providers will be able to give their patients unbiased, scientifically sound information based in their medical expertise, or whether those providers will have to repeat unfounded, unscientific talking points as part of a state-mandated effort to sway patients' choices.

I urge you to consider my experience and vote no on this dangerous, unethical bill.