



Brett Faris  
Executive Director

Testimony in Support of SB123

Senate Health Committee  
October 27, 2021

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Antonio & committee members:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today. I am here to support SB123 which would make abortion illegal in Ohio immediately if Roe V Wade is overturned.

I am fascinated by the universe. Have you ever considered its depth and vastness?

- Did you know that the Sun is 93 million miles away from us yet everyday light makes the 8 minutes and 20-second trip to reach our planet called Earth?
- Did you know that the universe has no center and is constantly expanding (getting bigger) every second – making it impossible to reach the edge?
- Did you know that there are more stars in the Universe than grains of pebble of sand on all the beaches around the Earth? And probably more planets than stars. Yet in all this immensity there is only one place we know of where life exists: Earth.

LIFE. In all the vastness of the galaxies that exist and throughout the wonder of space and time, the only place where there is LIFE is right here on this planet that we call Earth.

You would think, we would do everything in our power to PROTECT LIFE, yet I am here today standing before you to DEFEND IT.

For since 1973, in the United States of America abortion has ended the LIFE of 68,000,000 babies.

- 68,000,000 babies that never had the chance to breathe the wonderful gift of LIFE once they exited their mother's womb.

- 68,000,000 little boys and girls who never had the chance to grow up playing with toys, attend school and make friends.
- 68,000,000 men and women who never had the chance to start a career, get married and create a family of their own.

I am all for woman's choice. A woman should have the right to choose her career. A woman should have the right to choose her husband. A woman should have the right to choose the names of her children and the house she wants to live in.

But what a woman should not have the right to choose is the opportunity to end the life of her baby that is still developing within her.

I come without judgment of a woman who wants to pursue or who has had an abortion. For the past six years, I have been the Executive Director of Pregnancy Solutions which sees over 600 women every year providing them with free ultrasounds and free resources to help them in their pregnancy decision and parenting journey.

I have spoken with countless women who have faced an unplanned pregnancy and some with an unwanted pregnancy. I have cried with the fathers who are there in support of their girlfriend or wife yet don't know what to do in regards to the news of a baby.

I am not an uncompassionate, self-centered, egotistical male that the other side would want to portray me as.

Instead, I am the opposite. I am a husband. I am a father. I am a Follower of Jesus Christ. I am a man who stands for TRUTH and a man who desires to PROTECT those around me. I believe all people are created in the Image of God which gives them their inherited worth and value include the people who are inside a women's womb, the unborn.

I have sacrificed much these past 6 years to stand in the gap for the unborn and offer hope, help, and love to those who pursue an abortion.

I have yet to meet a woman or a man who has been happy to have had an abortion. Not one.

I have stood on the sidewalks at abortion clinics, not violently protesting against these women and men who walk through its doors .. but to be another human being who wants to help them at their most desperate time of need.

The women who walk in and walk out of the abortion clinic are women who don't want to be there. The fear in their eyes, the solace in their steps can be felt without speaking a word. I have watched the women who have had abortions pull away and while sitting in the passenger seat looking out the window with a look of such shock and horror as the little life they carried was now literally sucked out of them.

Today I don't come to divide party-lines between us and you. I don't come wanting to polarize this country any more than it already is. I don't come today to belittle anyone or place guilt on someone.

I come today to unite us, as fellow human beings, as fellow Americans, and say can we please protect LIFE that is the unborn baby against the brutalities that is abortion.

I ask you today to support the SB123 bill which would make abortion illegal the when the condition precedent for this law to take effect occurs.

I leave you with one more thought to ponder:

If my 10-year-old daughter came into the kitchen while I washing the dishes and with my back turned from her she says to me ... "Dad, can I kill this?" What would be the question I would ask back to her before turning around? "What is it that you are holding sweetie?"

If she replies "a stinkbug or a cockroach." My answer would be a "yes, but do it outside." And I would proceed to wash the dishes.

But if she says "my little sister," then my answer would be a resounding "no."

As you consider this bill, I would ask each of you before you vote on this bill to answer the question "What is it? What is it that this doctor holds between his abortion instruments? What it is that is in jeopardy of being killed?"

With much respect for each of you and the office you hold, I would ask you consider the answer to that question before you vote. Because your vote supports your answer and I hope you would answer that it is a human being.

Thank you for your attention and the opportunity to stand before you today and show my support for this bill.