

CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES and other Controversial Subjects

Michigan Heartbeat Coalition - Working to End Abortion

by Rick Warzywak, Michigan Heartbeat Coalition

The End of Abortion is only a Heartbeat Away!

This past week, Governor Whitmer, has submitted legislation that would make Michigan like New York, Illinois, California, to be an infanticide state: abortion with no limitations including late-term and even after babies are born.

In Michigan, we have two LIFE-initiatives that need our support. The Heartbeat Bill and the Dismemberment Bill. It is the enemy that divides the body of Christ and does not want either of these bills to pass. We need to be unified in the life-efforts and support BOTH bills circulating in our state. Babies and women need our help. We cannot be silent. The TIME is NOW to stand for LIFE. We only have a window of time! The end of December is when the required 340,000 validated signatures are needed for both these bills.

The Heartbeat Bill states that once the heartbeat is detected a "baby" is protected! It is the first bill in 46 years that gives "personhood" and "protection rights" of our Constitution to the human preborn baby in the womb. Science defines human life at conception and that the human heart starts to beat at approximately 18 to 26 days. The heartbeat can be detected by the 4-6th week depending on the technology of ultrasound. The heartbeat is a universal benchmark of life and Michigan will be the 10th state to pass the Heartbeat Bill. As more states pass the Heartbeat Bill will put pressure on the Supreme Court ...to overturn Roe V. Wade! 90-95% of babies in Michigan would be spared from abortion. Of the 26,716 abortions in Michigan last year, 435 babies would not have been protected with this bill.

Notable quote: Justice Blackmun (Chief Justice during 1973 Roe V Wade) said; "IF this suggestion of personhood is established, (Roe's) case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life would be then guaranteed."

For more information contact: The Michigan Heartbeat Coalition Website: www.miheartbeat.org

The Dismemberment Bill would be a ban on the D&E procedure (dilation and evacuation) which is the dismemberment and tearing of a baby out of the womb piece by piece. Of the 26,716 abortions in Michigan last year 1,908 babies died by this procedure.

For more information contact: The Michigan Values Life Website: www.michiganvalueslife.org

*DOES THE HEARTBEAT PETITION HAVE CLAUSES IN IT TO PROTECT PREVIOUS LIFE LAWS IN MI? WHAT LEGAL COUNSEL HAS BEEN SOUGHT TO MAKE SURE THIS IS TRUE?

First of all, YES! We have a number of MI attorney's that Senator McBroom and State Rep Steve Johnson consulted. Very notable national legal experts contacted by MI Heartbeat also made sure that all previous life laws on the books are protected in MI.

1. PREGNANCY CENTERS - NATIONAL LEADER - Thomas A. Glessner, an attorney, is the president and founder of the [National Institute of Family and Life Advocates](http://NationalInstituteofFamilyandLifeAdvocates). NIFLA recently won a Supreme Court case dealing with the free speech rights of pro-life pregnancy centers in NIFLA v. Becerra.

Thomas has fully endorsed the MI Heartbeat Bill as he reviewed the protective clauses in the Petition and he said that Heartbeat is the best initiative to be part in working with other states to overturn Roe v Wade. He recently did an OP ED article for the Washington Examiner and indicated Heartbeat will be the arrow that brings down Roe! He is currently producing a video in support for the MI Heartbeat bill.

2. AMERICAN CENTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE - (Jay Sekulow/Walter. Walter Weber reviewed all MI Life laws and helped put together the protective clauses in the MI Heartbeat Bill. There are a total of (3) three protective clauses that explicitly state the statutes and pre-Roe laws in MI

would be protected when Roe is overturned.

3. ABBY JOHNSON OF THE UNPLANNED MOVIE - She has fully endorsed the MI Heartbeat Bill. One of her attorney's lives in West Bloomfield. They both reviewed and agreed that no previous life laws in MI are endangered because of the protective clauses literally in the petition.

*WHEN ROE IS OVERTURNED WILL PREVIOUS MI LIFE LAWS BE NEGATED BY HEARTBEAT?

Simply put - NO!!! When Roe is overturned the Heartbeat Bill in MI will be negated because of the protective clauses in the Petition. Anything said to the contrary is a falsehood. Meanwhile 26,716 babies in MI were aborted in 2018. The previous LIFE laws are not saving them. May we act now as a Heartbeat can be detected at 5-6 weeks...new science is indicating 18-21 days. We can make every attempt to save as many as we can NOW until Roe is overturned.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Sign the bills! And, get others to sign them, too!

Order The Heartbeat bill online at www.miheartbeat.org or in Muskegon County area contact: Deb Null 231-206-2471 or Sondra Cross 231-329-3056

Governor Whitmer's Reproductive Health Act

submitted by Right to Life of Michigan, RTL.org; info@rtl.org

November 4, 2019, Lansing, MI -- The bills making up Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Reproductive Health Act (RHA) were introduced into the Legislature on October 31, and Right to Life of Michigan staff have analyzed the changes to Michigan law.

The main bills are identical, **SB 622** and **HB 5179**, and the other bills in the RHA remove sentencing or references to laws it would repeal.

The following are major changes to state law, and scenarios the bills would allow that are based on real events.

Major changes:

- Repeals Michigan's complete abortion ban and codifies an unlimited health exception in state law.

- Creates an unlimited right to abortion, which could have broad implications. Allows women to sue for damages if she believes that right is being restricted in any way.

- Repeals the partial-birth abortion ban.

- Nullifies the current **petition drive** to enact a ban on dismemberment abortions (which amends the partial-birth abortion ban).

- Allows abortion facilities to be unregulated and never be inspected.

- Removes parental consent requirements.

- Removes waiting periods and requirements that abortionists provide women with informed consent and an opportunity to see her ultrasound.

- Removes mandated screening for abortion coercion.

- Opens the door for any medical professional to perform a surgical abortion.

- Stops local governments and schools from regulating abortion in any way, including through zoning laws.

Scenarios:

- A woman who is 30-weeks pregnant **decides** to have an abortion after her boyfriend abandons her. Her relationship situation qualifies as a "health" exception. Rather than completing the birth to allow the viable child a chance to survive, the child is stabbed in the head during the process of birth and her brains are suctioned out.

- A fire marshal is called after receiving an anonymous report about the poor conditions of an **uninspected** surgical abortion facility. The facility has water damage, rusty surgical equipment, blood spatters on walls, and garbage lying around. The fire marshal decides to let it remain open because he exposes himself to a lawsuit if he tries to close it.

- A 16-year old pregnant girl walks to the abortion facility located **across the street** from her school. She is given no informed consent materials, forbidden from seeing the ultrasound of her baby when she asks for it, and her surgical abortion is completed during the school day. Her parents never find out. The school can't discipline her for skipping school because of her unlimited right to abortion.

- A sex trafficker **takes** his pregnant 13-year

old victim to an abortion facility, no questions are asked, no medical professional is present, and the victim is sent home with her sex trafficker and abortion pills prescribed by a nurse via Skype.

- A college athlete becomes pregnant. Her coach **demand**s she have an abortion, threatening to pull her scholarship. The athlete doesn't want an abortion, but she knows she has no legal recourse to address her coach's coercion. The abortion facility staff rushes to get her into the procedure room before she changes her mind.

Other changes worth noting:

- Doesn't repeal the ban on Medicaid-funded abortions (as we speculated in our October 29 press release). However, creating an unlimited right to abortion in state law could potentially impact it.

- An unlimited right to abortion and allowing women to sue for damages could broadly impact conscience protections for healthcare workers.

- Repeals the Abortion Insurance Opt-Out Act, allowing for insurance plans to have abortion coverage as a required benefit.

- Redefines fetal viability from the point a child can survive outside the womb to when a child can survive without "extraordinary" care. "Extraordinary" is undefined and could include common situations like a child sent to a neonatal intensive care unit. This ominous change could have implications for how disabled children and children who survive botched abortions are treated.

- Defines pregnancy in law at the point when the child implants in the womb, not when the child is conceived.

Protect Life Rule Saves Lives

by Kaylee Tegethoff

On August 19, 2019, Planned Parenthood doubled down on their commitment to abortion by withdrawing from the federally-funded Title X family planning program. Planned Parenthood gave up about \$60 million of your tax dollars instead of accepting the new Title X requirements implemented by the Trump Administration.

The new requirements, termed the "Protect Life Rule," require all federal funds provided through the program be sent to organizations that do not perform or refer for abortions. These requirements uphold the intent of the original law creating the Title X program.

The estimated \$60 million Planned Parenthood receives each year in Title X funds accounts for about a tenth of the total taxpayer funding the abortion giant receives. Although the Protect Life Rule eliminates just a small portion of their funding, it is still an important and influential first step in defunding Planned Parenthood.

The Protect Life Rule also demonstrates President Trump's commitment to protecting the unborn and conscience rights. Instead of that \$60 million enriching abortion providers, those funds will be redirected to non-abortion health clinics.

Even without your tax dollars, Planned Parenthood continues to profit from abortions, including late-term abortions through primarily the dismemberment procedure. Right to Life of Michigan and grassroots volunteers across the state are hard at work collecting signatures to ban the dismemberment abortion procedure in Michigan. You can learn more and join the effort at michiganvalueslife.org.

Banning dismemberment abortions in Michigan will cut the profits of abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood and save the lives of vulnerable unborn children. Just as the Protect Life Rule proved Planned Parenthood's top priority is their abortion services, the petition drive to end dismemberment abortions exposes the abortion industry and their radical commitment to ending lives through barbaric abortion procedures.

Prolife efforts are winning at the national, state and local level. We can see the progress being made on the federal level with the Trump Administration's implementation of the Protect Life Rule. On the state level, the ongoing petition drive to end dismemberment abortions continues to receive thousands of signatures every day.

Locally, we've seen several recent successes. In April, Muskegon County ended Planned Parenthood's sweetheart deal allowing them access to the county health building. The most recent numbers show their county health department is serving even more patients as a result.

Diverting taxpayer funds and banning barbaric abortion procedures are two areas of life-saving prolife progress worth celebrating.