



LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 131ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2015-2016)

PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

This legislation would ban abortion at the point in pregnancy that an unborn baby is able to feel pain, which many experts agree happens no later than by 20 weeks gestation. Federal legislation to this effect, which has been passed by the U.S. House of Representatives, is supported by National Right to Life, Americans United for Life, and the Susan B. Anthony List. A total of thirteen states have enacted some form of this legislation since 2010. Protecting pain-sensitive unborn children from painful, life-ending abortions isn't a partisan issue – the November 2014 Quinnipiac poll found that 60% of those surveyed supported banning abortions at the point at which babies can feel pain. The same poll found support for such a ban from 59% of women and 57% of those 18-29 years old.

TRIGGER CLAUSE

This legislation would prohibit all abortions except those necessary to save the mother's life, but would not take effect until the Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*. It is a common misconception that once *Roe* is overturned, abortion will become illegal in the United States. However, overturning *Roe* would in reality result in leaving the decision to permit or prohibit abortion up to each state. If *Roe* were overturned today, Ohioans would legally be able to obtain an abortion up to 24 weeks. A post-*Roe* activation clause, commonly called a "trigger clause", will serve as a proactive pro-life measure in our incremental approach.

DOWN SYNDROME NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT

This legislation would prohibit an abortion from being performed on an unborn child on the basis of that child having Down syndrome. A study published by the National Center for Biotechnology Information and featured in the *New York Times* found that approximately 92% of unborn children diagnosed with Down syndrome are aborted. While elective abortion is never the right choice, it's particularly egregious that unborn children can be denied life simply due to the presence of a disability.



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ABORTION-INDUCING DRUGS SAFETY ACT

This legislation would require abortion-inducing drugs to be administered in accordance with “the protocol tested and authorized by the United States Food and Drug Administration as outlined in the final printed label of the abortion-inducing drug.” Texas passed a similar law in 2013, and it has been upheld by the federal courts.

PREGNANCY AND PARENTING SUPPORT PROGRAM

In the last budget cycle, we pursued discretionary TANF dollars to be allocated to funding the work of life-affirming pregnancy centers across the state. Ohio Right to Life will pursue an increase in funding to increase the number of women who could be served by centers using the funds.

DEFUNDING PLANNED PARENTHOOD

While we achieved a major victory in funneling certain federal money that is allocated through the state away from Planned Parenthood, there are remaining funding streams that were not addressed in the last budget. This only builds off of what we have already accomplished, and it is important for the state to remain consistent in its commitment to keeping tax dollars out of the pockets of the abortion industry.

