

February 5, 2019

Dear Representatives,

I am writing to express my extreme opposition to H.57 and to ask you to vote no.

I believe H.57 is a bill that endangers women and has no bearing on women's health. There have been many recent testimonies of OB-GYNs who have stated clearly that there is never a medical reason that requires a late-term abortion for the health of the mother. This is why we hear of emergency C-sections but not emergency abortions. For example, Dr. Omar Hamada, OB-GYN explained, "There's not a single fetal or maternal condition that requires third trimester abortion. Not one. Delivery, yes. Abortion, no."

Purposefully minimizing all regulations for abortion clinics and abortion providers is not best for the health of women. If H.57 passes, it seems that Vermont is on track to ensure that situations like Kermit Gosnell's crimes against women and born-alive babies happen in Vermont.

It is so disheartening as a Vermont tax payer, citizen, and mother, that you would legally enact that any preborn child has no rights.

We don't let parents endanger their children; we are supposed to be about protecting children. Part of the role of the government should be to protect the vulnerable and helpless. I am appalled that the most helpless in our society are being targeted by lawmakers in the name of women's health.

Half of the preborn babies aborted are our future women. Why do some unborn animals in Vermont, such as the bald eagle, have more legal protections than unborn humans?

As I read this bill, it strikes me in every way as being written to protect the interests of Planned Parenthood rather than the interests of women and children. They will profit if this bill passes. The women and children of Vermont will not. Vote no on H.57.

Sincerely,

Melanie Counts
1328 E Arlington Rd
Arlington, VT 05250