

To the House Committee on Human Services,

Please regard this email as public written testimony regarding Bill H.57

As a citizen of this great state, I testify that Vermont Bill H.57 is both unconstitutional and an abhorration of an individual's fundamental and inalienable right to life. It is a biological fact that life and person-hood begin at conception. All DNA, biological building-blocks, and processes necessary for human life and person-hood are present at the conception of a fetus. We know in good conscience that that fetus, if left undisturbed, would continue to grow and would eventually be birthed as a breathing, eating, crying, infant. No argument can state otherwise. Therefore, it is the responsibility of a government to protect, secure, and maintain the right to life for that unborn fetus, just as they should any post-birth individual.

Furthermore, to deny any unborn-individual basic rights and protections is the antithesis of the responsibility of a government. Philosopher John Locke argued that the role and responsibility of any legitimate government is to protect its citizen's rights to life, liberty, health, and property. As previously stated, it is clear that an unborn fetus is a human person as it contains within itself every biological necessity to indicate human life and person-hood. The only natural obstacle separating an unborn fetus from being a law-abiding, community-serving, neighbor-loving, citizen of Vermont, is time. Time is all that separates the unborn from the born. We would be foolish to assume that we can control the phenomenon of time, so why do we assume that we have the authority to take away the right to life of another? Therefore, we cannot deprive the right of citizen protections from an unborn fetus, and to destroy its right to life is both unconstitutional and deplorable.

It is the responsibility of a legitimate government to protect the right to life from all forms of threats, including but not limited to those within and without. Therefore, no government, agency, man, woman, or child should be given the opportunity, chance, or ability to destroy another's right to life.

Life is the most basic human right and it is the responsibility of the State of Vermont to protect, secure, and maintain that right for all individuals living under its jurisdiction.

Therefore, I oppose the passage of Vermont Bill H.57.

Sincerely,

David Townsend
Brattleboro, Vermont