

349 Victoria Drive
Rutland, VT 05701-9135
February 3, 2019

Dear Vermont State Senators and Representatives,

I write this letter because my voice is important and you need to hear it. But first, thank you for taking your time to serve the citizens of Vermont in the State legislature, for taking on this grave responsibility.

I have just read the bill H.57, and am in full support of its passage. I'm sure you will hear from many people who support "Right to life" ...they will be coming from across the country as they did with the civil unions/ gay marriage issue and the gun law of last year.

Some of the following thoughts guide my opinion that I'd like to share and hope you can support.

If a woman becomes pregnant and has a miscarriage, does the state or federal government mourn her loss or grieve with her? If a woman is unable to get pregnant to start a family, does the state or federal government assist her in the medical morass or in the mental anguish?

Also, carrying a pregnancy to term and delivering a full-term viable infant carries much risk and these risks vary for each woman; does the state incur these risks as part of the job of governance?

When a woman becomes pregnant, she has changed her life forever. She has a few options and none is without consequence.

It is my belief that the state should have no say in a woman's right to make the correct choice for her. While she may consult her partner, family, health care providers, or other trusted people in her life, ultimately, she alone has to decide and then live with the choice she makes.

Please keep government out of a woman's right to make her life choices, her health care choices.

Just as we need to keep government and religion separate, so we need to keep the woman's right to choose as a matter of personal health care.

Sincerely,

Marcia Barron