

Dear Representative Pugh,

My name is Roger Croswell. I am a resident of Ludlow, Vermont. As an elected representative I am writing to respectfully request that you vote NO on House Bill H.57.

As a Christian I have a responsibility to protect the vulnerable and to speak for the innocent who are being harmed or even killed (Proverbs 31:8-9).

I believe life begins at conception, that God has formed that life in the mother's womb (Psalm 139:13-16), that God knew that person before their birth (Jeremiah 1:5) and that God's commandment calls us to not murder (Exodus 20:13). If an unborn baby is 40 weeks, 1 week, or even moments old at conception, there is no distinction in the inherent, God-given value of the unborn child.

Abortion is murder and we have no right to take a life whether before, during or after birth and destroy one of God's creation.

I believe if this bill is approved it will be just one more step down the road to dehumanization and institutionalized cruelty and, hence, should not be supported.

I understand The right to abortion bill, has 90+/- co-sponsors, and goes beyond the scope of [Roe v. Wade](#), which protects a fetus that can survive outside the mother's womb. I think it is unconscionable that an abortion could be performed in Vermont up until the point of birth for any reason. While it may have been true that no abortion providers in VT have performed "elective" abortions in the third trimester this bill, if approved as written would permit abortions in the third trimester. Mr Nicoll has recently stated "One thing that has come out of those discussions is that every member of my committee would like to do what we can to decrease the overall number of abortions that are provided in the state and we will start working on quadri-partisan (Dem, Rep, Prog and Ind) legislation after we vote on this bill to improve access to contraception and education." If that is true please do not proceed with approving H.57 which will only open up the potential for more abortions.

I cherish life, and I ask you to use the power with which you are entrusted to also protect innocent, defenseless, unborn life.

Respectfully,

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