

**Testimony Before the House Committee on Human Services Vermont
General Assembly By Chris Prozzo, Saxtons River, VT February 6, 2019**

RE: H.57

There are still some Vermonters left who consider it "self evident" that we are endowed by our Creator, with certain unalienable rights, and that included among those rights, is the right to life. That right is not conferred by government, but rather, it is to be secured by government. For any right that is conferred by government can also be revoked by government and would therefore not be unalienable. By definition this right to life applies to all living members of the human race, and is not contingent on their size, or their level of development, nor their location, or their degree of dependency. Abortion in general, and house bill 57 specifically, revokes the right to life, from the most vulnerable category of humans, the unborn.

Section 2C of H57, specifically states "**A fertilized egg, embryo, or fetus shall not have independent rights under Vermont law**". That is the state revoking an unalienable right. The language of that statement is a veiled attempt to obfuscate the fact, that the thing that is to have "**no independent rights under Vermont law**", is, by definition, a living human being. From the egg, to the embryo, to the fetus, the unborn are at every stage human and every stage living, having complete and unique DNA from the mother, in all cases a unique living human being.

I would ask the sponsors of this bill, what is the difference between the born and the unborn that justifies making it legal to kill the latter?

This bill would effectively make it possible for the unborn child to be killed for any reason at any time during all 9 months of pregnancy, with total impunity.

If it is a moral evil to kill a newborn, simply because they are much smaller than adults, or dependent on their parents, or are not fully physically developed, how can you justify the killing of the unborn simply because of their location? Does a 7 inch trip down the birth canal magically convey personhood, that was somehow absent only hours before they are born?

There is the claim this bill furthers women's reproductive rights and women's health care, yet half the people murdered through abortion are baby girls. Every day approximately 450 healthy female lives are terminated by Planned Parenthood alone. They are girls who will never be able to exercise their reproductive rights, or receive healthcare because they are all dead.

Every baby in a Vermont mother's womb is one of your constituents, that you have taken an oath to serve. The Vermont constitution article 9 clearly states "**That every member of society hath a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life**". You have sworn in your oath to protect every member of societies right to the enjoyment of life. Ask yourself how does H57 rank in the securing of that right for the unborn.

The sponsors of this bill and anyone who supports it will be complicit in making a Vermont mother's womb the most dangerous place in the United States for the unborn. I urge you and the Governor to listen to your conscience and reject this evil proposition House bill H57.