

I write this testimony because I cannot be silent for the unborn Vermonters who cannot speak for themselves. I write this testimony also to speak up for the many other Vermonters who will be negatively affected by this bill. Please protect the rights of ALL Vermonters, including the unborn by voting against H57. Protect the rights of the unborn disabled. Protect the rights of the unborn no matter their gender or sexuality. Protect the rights of the unborn of all races. Protect the rights of the unborn of all socio-economic status. Also protect the rights of medical professionals. Protect the rights of employees and officials of public schools and local and state governments. Protect the rights of those experiencing domestic violence. Protect the rights of those whose unborn children have been killed at the fault of others.

Instead of voting for H57, champion legislation to help mothers never have to feel that they are so desperate that they make the choice to terminate the life of their unborn baby at any and all stages of fetal development.

I am the mother of an unexpected third child. At 36, I discovered that I was pregnant again. This was not in my plan. I already had two wonderful sons, plans to advance my career, plans to get back into shape physically, plans to sleep through the night. To begin with this baby was not welcomed news. Julia is now 4, and I could not imagine life without her. The world needs this beautiful, strong, smart, sassy, sweet girl. My children love each other so much, and my husband and I love them all. I have a fulfilling job and I sleep through the night. I am still working on getting into good physical shape, but I am okay with that. My life has been so enriched by Julia. She is worth more than any temporal pleasure that may have dissuaded me from seeing my pregnancy through to birth.

Please let all the other children have a chance at life. Let the children of Vermont know that you as their legislators value them. Make a stand for what is right. Make a stand for life. Vote against H57.