

Rachel M. Rolfe  
501 Vermont Route 64  
Williamstown, Vermont

February 1, 2019

Dear Legislators,

I would like to add my voice to those who vehemently oppose H 57 passage. I have spent 45 years as a registered nurse working with mothers and babies. I worked for many of those years helping to deliver infants and assisting in the care and recovery of infants born from 24 weeks to term.

With abortion rates going down and the options for preventing conception available, I don't understand the need to allow unrestricted abortion. An abortion beyond 20 weeks gestation is murder and I can't believe the number of you supporting this option. I suggest you talk to women unable to become pregnant or who have lost a much wanted pregnancy before you consider passing this bill. Please talk to those who have had an abortion and have been emotionally scarred for life. They often are the ones least likely to share their story.

The one thing I don't see in this bill is protection for medical personnel who refuse to assist in abortions. Planned, voluntary abortions did not occur in the hospital I worked in and I would have refused to be a part of that situation. I think passage of this will create a huge ethical problem for medical personnel and staffing.

If this is your option for using tax payer money, I think it's time for me to consider leaving Vermont.

Sincerely,

Rachel M. Rolfe