

Dear Representative Rosenquist:

Thank you for inviting me to testify on Proposal 5. I wanted to share a few thoughts and slides with the Committee.

First, the language of this Proposal seems needlessly confusing. If we are trying to protect abortion then let's say so. Vermonters like straight talk.

Secondly, the State of Vermont does have an interest in the health and well being of children in the womb as evidenced by our focus on prenatal care, and DCF actions in the case of maternal negligence.

Lastly, I think placing some reasonable limits on when abortions could be performed and protecting the lives of all children including those with genetic syndromes or other birth anomalies is more in keeping with a way forward in this difficult debate. For the committees consideration I include the following images.

The first two are from a medical text, [Color Atlas of Life Before Birth](#), by Marjorie England, they show the child at 14 and 15 weeks of gestation. The last is the Iconic image from Life Magazine.

Respectfully,
Dr. Joseph Nasca
Pediatrician