

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 1280

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Hearing Date: April 7, 2021 8:00 AM

Ashley Conley

Texas normal

Greenville, TX

Just passed the bill for medical and recreational cannabis use for adults over the age of 21

Jessica Tiedt

Self, Chief Court Administrator

Georgetown, TX

I do not support this legislation. It criminalizes in a discriminatory way and does nothing to actually help reduce abortions. Please do not pass this out of committee. Thank you.

Kaden Aubert

Self

Richmond, TX

I support this legislation. Thanks for your consideration.

ARTHUR ELLIS, Mr.

Self

Houston, TX

Do not pass this bill. It hurts all women, poor and rich. If passed it would create criminals out of normal persons. Please do not Pass this.

Walter Grimes

self

Kilgore, TX

I do not support this bill,

Rick Sitton

Self

Bryan, TX

Human Life Protection Act or Trigger Ban SB 391 (Paxton) | HB 1280 (Capriglione). As a United Methodist pastor for over 35 years, I strongly advocate for this bill realizing it is simply a trigger as well as a statement of conscience. Unborn human beings

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have a right to life and until Roe v. Wade took that right away, each state had the ability and responsibility for the unborn. I speak for the unborn who cannot speak for themselves and ask that everything that can be done to protect the most vulnerable and voiceless be done as an act of compassion, conscience and morality.

Respectfully,

Rev. Rick Sitton
FUMC Bryan
Bryan, Texas

Molly Frisinger

Self

Austin, TX

Oppose because it puts people's lives in danger by limiting access to safe healthcare

Liz Hanks

Self

Houston, TX

I am absolutely opposed to this bill that criminalizes women's healthcare. As an attorney and a woman perfectly capable of making my own decisions, this law is an abomination and an affront to all women and families.

Dana Hendrix

Self, engineer

Houston, TX

This bill is cruel and inhumane. Women's rights are human rights. Do not pass this bill.

Maggie McCartney Garner

Self

Houston, TX

I oppose this bill because it will harm women. Studies have proven repeatedly that limiting abortion access does not decrease the number of elective abortions, but DOES increase the number of abortion-related deaths. If you want to end abortion, start by offering comprehensive sex education.

Bergan Casey, Mrs

Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas

Austin, TX

Legislators need to keep their hands off our bodies. Abortion is a difficult and sometimes necessary procedure that is a women's business and not yours. There are so many more important issues for you to be handling this session including gun control, energy regulation and education funding than restricting a woman's access.

Haleigh Wallace

Self

Austin, TX

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Dear representatives,

I am writing to you with deep concern about the 7 anti-abortion bills that are scheduled to be heard on Wednesday of next week.

I want to share with you my story. It is a very uncomfortable thing to do, but I hope that you read it, and I hope that you can understand the way that these anti-abortion bills affect real people.

Last year, I found myself in a position where I had had a sexual encounter that I did not want to have with someone that I did not want to have that with. Despite using a condom and taking emergency contraception immediately afterwards, I found myself pregnant. For my physical and mental health (and because very simply, I do not want to bring a child into this world), I knew that continuing the pregnancy was not an option for me.

Because of all of the regulations that Texas already has in place, this was not a fast or easy process. Because there are so few clinics left in the state, each one is very full, and the soonest I could get an appointment was almost two weeks later. Because of the waiting period that Texas mandates, I then needed to schedule a second appointment, and again, because of the lack of availability, I was unable to make an appointment right away. By the time I had jumped through all of the hoops that Texas already requires, I was 7 weeks pregnant.

Despite the fact that I had used two forms of contraception, despite the fact that I had realized I was pregnant as early as it is medically possible, despite the fact that I called to schedule my appointment that same day, I was pregnant, and I was already outside of that 6 week window.

The majority of people do not realize they are pregnant as early as I did. Then add to that the lack of clinics in the state and the mandated waiting period. Understand that a 6 week abortion ban is a TOTAL abortion ban. This is unconstitutional and it threatens the health and well-being of every person in this state who can get pregnant.

Sometimes we find ourselves in situations that we don't want to be in. Unfortunately, there are times when we don't have control over the sexual situations that happen to us. Sometimes we can take every precaution available, and yet things happen anyway. Politicians try to paint people who have abortions as irresponsible, but sometimes you can do everything right, and it is not enough.

I did not deserve to be punished for that encounter. I did not deserve to have my health and my life put at risk by continuing an unwanted pregnancy. I am thankful every day for my abortion and for the doctors and nurses who kindly and gently helped me through it.

I know how easily any of this could happen again, and the idea that I might not have a say in what happens to me next terrifies me and gives me deep anxiety.

Please understand that these laws affect real people and put real people at risk. Understand that these restrictions are not just restrictions, but effectively a complete abortion ban.

Thank you for reading.

Amanda Reyna

self

San Antonio, TX

I oppose the bill that would ban abortion in Texas if Row v. Wade was overturned by the U.S. Supreme court. The state should work to allow all Texans to access medical services, including abortion, leaving medical choice up to the individual.

Laila Khalili

Myself

Houston, TX

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I had an abortion when I was 21. I was in college full time, working full time, and had undiagnosed depression and PTSD. I was in no way ready to have a child, and I knew I wanted an abortion. I didn't find out I was pregnant until I was 9 weeks along.

I am in my thirties now, a homeowner, leading a happy and fulfilling life, engaged to the love of my life, working to better my community. My abortion was a blessing. It enabled me to finish college, work, and take care of myself and my family.

Why is this your business? Why are you spending the little time you have in session creating cruel, unnecessary legislation that hurts your constituents? This legislation is a violation of my privacy and my constitutional right to access health care. It is an insult to me and every single person who has had an abortion, to every person in this state.

I promise you that you know and love people who have had an abortion. Vote against this legislation. For me. For your loved ones. For all Texans who deserve to make personal health care decisions with dignity and respect.

Vote no.

Alan Bernstein

self

Bellaire, TX

I write in virulent opposition to HB 1280 because it grants every rapist a Bill of Rights to choose which woman he wants to bear his child involuntarily. The last thing the Legislature should do is further abet criminals.

Jessie Casteel, Ms.

Self

Houston, TX

I want to make it clear that our state needs real leadership right now. Instead of focusing on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and winter storm recovery, you are spending time trying to further Dan Patrick's extreme political agenda.

The majority of Texans support access to safe, legal abortion.

Restricting access to abortion to score political points is a failure in your leadership. I urge you to focus on the real and immediate needs of Texans right now.

Ella West

Self, Student

Houston, TX

My name is Ella West, and I am writing to oppose House Bill 1280. HB 1280 is a trigger bill that would make it a criminal offense to have an abortion in Texas.

As a teenager in Houston, I have seen the need for abortion services firsthand. If this bill passed, women would not have access to fundamental healthcare, and the Texas would turn back to a dark time in our country's history where women's bodies were wholly controlled by an oppressive system. As history has shown, when abortions are illegal, they do not stop. Rather, women turn to illegal services and back alley procedures that kill. In 1965, 17% of deaths due to pregnancy and childbirth were the result of illegal abortion. Additionally, when women have access to abortion care, women are enabled to pursue educational and employment opportunities.

Furthermore, according to the constitution, people have the right to privacy. This extends to pregnant people. As such, they have the right to make their own medical decisions without lawmaker input.

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Instead of embracing backward laws found in third world countries, I hope that Texas lawmakers look forward and choose to uplift women.

Once again, for these reasons, I vehemently oppose HB 1280.

Maureen Johnson

self medical health professional

Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to HB 1280 which would ban abortion in Texas upon Roe v. Wade being overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court and make abortion a criminal offense.

Punishing women for ending unwanted pregnancies sets our society back and ultimately is a strategy to keep power among men and will ultimately hurt women across all socio economic strata.

I ask you to vote no to HB 1280.

Maureen Johnson

helen allen

representing myself as a concerned Texas Citizen

dallas, TX

I'm encourage all HB referred to to be considered by the Senate. Please, don't allow House Speaker Dade Phelan to decide what gets voted on or not. Insist that the Texas Citizenry wants abortion completely banned or at least increase restriction. It is important that each fetus is protected. South the Supreme Court overrule Roe V Wade partially or totally it will ban abortion in Texas. All abortions should be banned when a heart beat is heard. For someone seeking an abortion for any reason should be provided counseling to discuss the pros and cons of having an abortion. All industry making the majority of the income from abortions should be prohibited from providing any of the counselling. HB 2676 should be passed enabling all parents who have lost a child for any reason to be given some type of certificate thereby stating the state of Texas recognizes this child as person and not a blob. HB 2337 should be passed because it puts our abortion laws the FDA's regulations on any and all use of drugs used the cause an abortion to occur. In no uncertain terms should abortions be allowed based on the mother/fathers personal desires to choose the sex, or due to the race, or of a suspected disability, but rather allows the parents to receive services to care for the child.. To allow and encourage abortion is killing a human is wrong, wrong. It also leads to greater possibility of allowing euthanasia at the whim of doctors, lawyers, and an individual choosing to die. Euthanasia and abortion are out right murder-- unacceptable to this Texan. Thank you all for serving. I know tough decisions are hard to make, but hard decisions is what builds character.

Kimberly Phipps-Nichol

self

Houston, TX

Yet again we see TX legislators seemingly wasting our time and tax dollars trying to regulate basic healthcare for women. Abortion is a nationally protected legal right and the ONLY people who should be having the conversation about abortion is the healthcare provider and the patient. Period. Get your laws off our bodies. Start focusing on the real problem: men who cannot control themselves or take responsibility for their actions. Stop penalizing women and families who have to make this painful and difficult decision in the first place.

Mary Selby

Self

Austin, TX

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Howdy I would like the committee hearing HB 1280 to know that I am strongly opposed to this bill. Texans are in need of more healthcare and we need our elected officials to focus on more urgent needs. Please stay focused on more important matters and do not criminalize reproductive rights. If we truly care about children and mothers in Texas let's treat them with care and not as criminals.

Kristin Jensen

Self

Austin, TX

Much of our population does not believe abortion should be a crime. Please do not interfere with the autonomy of human beings by prohibiting this aspect of personal health and freedom.

Susan Barzelay

Self

Colleyville, TX

This is a medical issue to be resolved in privacy with one's physician. As a carrier of a gene that would result in still birth or not allow child to live beyond a year or two, it is abhorrent that women and physicians are restricted from benefitting from medical science and modern ethics.

Matt Kaufmann

self; computer scientist

Austin, TX

Many reasonable people differ in their views on abortion. Government should avoid using its heavy hand in such matters, so I oppose this bill.

Marcella Marmor, Ms

Self

San Antonio, TX

This bill is unnecessary. Most Texas want safe, legal abortions.

Marcella Marmor, Ms

Self

San Antonio, TX

This bill is not needed. Most Texans support safe, legal abortions. Women will die needlessly, if you do this.

Danielle Lail

self

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill. This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to

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term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Deanna Koblenz

self

Tomball, TX

Seeking an abortion is NOT something gleefully sought. It is a CHOICE made of desperation, by an already living human being, which should for no reason, be a decision resulting in a "civil penalty" or indeed, a "criminal offense". An unplanned, unwanted pregnancy is a devastation, not a wonderfully joyful experience, as being pregnant should be. What if someone you love, a daughter, a relative, a friend, were to be confronted with such overwhelming pain? With your bill, the person who would be destroyed is the one alive, not the cells inside her body. Shouldn't SHE count? Shouldn't SHE matter to you, as a representative of this state? Perhaps better to show care for those of us already here. We are the ones who need you. Thank you for listening.

lee cisneros

self

houston, TX

This bill is very important and will serve to testify to the beauty of human life for all Texans. The people of Texas have voted for Life over and over again. They seek justice for the unborn, those who do not have a voice, those that are innocent. The natural law that we, as humans, need to be aware of is the same law that the Declaration of Independence refers to; "We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator certain inalienable rights, of which are Life, Liberty and The Pursuit of Happiness." The first mentioned is Life. It is a truth that no man or government should allow to be ignored or dissolved. Life, the word seems so simple, but yet holds more meaning than that of the whole world. It is up to us to protect it, cherish it, nurture it, and promote it. It will be what future generations remember us by or judge us by. It will be a symbol of what our state stood for and what was in our hearts. Do not be afraid to stand up for Life. It is the most important thing we can do.

Megan Seaholm, Ph.D.

myself

Austin, TX

As the Texas legislature considers the numerous bill submitted to restrict or eliminate a woman's access to abortion, I submit that the legislature is PRACTICING MEDICINE WITHOUT A LICENSE. Also, they will to assume the role of every pregnant woman's parent or moral director. Unless a woman has been determined to be mentally incompetent, adult women must be trusted to make a decision about whether or not to end or continue a pregnancy. We do not place all pregnant women in custody to see that they are behaving in healthy ways; we do not determine who should or should not become a mother, we do not determine whether or not men are fit to become fathers..

It follows, I believe that we must trust adult women to make these choices regarding their healthy and whether or not they wish to become mothers at that time. Respectfully submitted, Megan Seaholm

Jennie Kuzdzal

self / biologist

Houston, TX

My name is Jennie Kuzdzal, and I oppose House Bill 1280.

Pregnancy carries inherent health risks, and no one should be forced to unwillingly endure these. HB 1280 would ban nearly all abortions in Texas if Roe v. Wade gets overturned, including in cases of a lethal fetal diagnosis. Finding out that a wanted

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pregnancy is not viable is heartbreaking enough without having the government tell you what is best for you and your unborn child. Why should a mother be forced to carry a baby to term that has no chance of survival and may suffer upon birth? This should be a personal decision. It is impossible to predict what situations might arise during pregnancy, and I would not want to be pregnant in a state where women have lost the right to make their own health care decisions. As a mother of two, I believe that these decisions should be made by an individual and her doctor, not the government.

I urge you to defend women's rights by rejecting House Bill 1280.

Julie Campbell

none

AUSTIN, TX

Trying to make the decision to have an abortion is often the MOST difficult decision a woman will EVER need (yes NEED) to make. Now the State of Texas is considering making that illegal. And not only for the patient but the providers as well. Unfathomable! Taking devastating, life changing decisions away from families and medical experts and turning those over to politicians is WRONG!

Susan Taylor

self

Canyon Lake, TX

Re HB 1280, the "Trigger" ban. This is really very extreme and wrong for women, for one example is the fact that you will be committing a woman to carry an embryo to term against her own will, and putting her in a life-threatening state without her consent. Women are NOT REPRODUCTIVE SLAVES, nor are their lives or health decisions any business of yours. There is no abortion without a man. Try creating a ban on all un-permitted ejaculation if you want to reduce abortion.

Veronica J Esparza, Mrs

Self/ retired educator & Counselor

El Paso, TX

It's imperative to prohibit that lives of babies be aborted

Barbara Garbacz

Self

Dallas, TX

This is an attack on women's rights for safe and healthy abortion access. Scientific fact must be followed instead of religious beliefs that infringe on a woman's control of her body and health. There are so many other priority issues to be addressed by the TX legislature. Dan Patrick is leading a charge that most Texans do not support. If the idea is based on pro-life, then there should also be funding for pre- & post natal care, as well as education, food nutrition, safe housing/neighborhoods, etc.

Angela Marez

Self; Business Co-Owner

Cedar Park, TX

Abortion, at any stage of a pregnancy, is the Murder of the Innocent; even to the point of Torture before the Infant dies. I do not feel that the Abortive Woman should be penalized. (I feel that the abortion, itself and living with it, is enough punishment). However, I DO FEEL THAT THE ABORTION PROVIDERS SHOULD FACE SEVERE PENALTIES, INCLUDING, CHARGES AND PENALTIES OF THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE NATURE.

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Norman Ellefson

Self retired

Rowlett, TX

To not stop abortion is murder and should be treated as such.

Malkia Hutchinson-Arvizu

Self, Director of Communications

Houston, TX

My name is Malkia Hutchinson-Arvizu and I oppose HB 1280.

This extreme bill makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Banning and criminalizing abortion is cruel already and the state leadership will make matters worse for Texans who are forced to carry unviable pregnancies to term.

We have actual problems in this state that need to be addressed. Our children are living in poverty and are among the most uninsured in the nation. Yet granting them, and their parents, access to healthcare is not a priority for this legislative body. Our schools are underfunded and overcrowded. Texas will truly prove it is pro-life and cares about actual human beings when her leaders begin to properly invest in the children who are already here.

Myself and the majority of Texans reject any attempt to curtail our reproductive rights and urge state leaders to focus on solving the very real problems Texas faces.

Marlene Rubin

Self/Retired

Houston, TX

Abortion by a licensed and appropriately trained physician should be allowed up to the 12th week of pregnancy and even later if the mother's life is in danger.

Marlene Rubin

Self/Retired

Houston, TX

Abortion by a licensed and appropriately trained physician should be allowed up to the 12th week of pregnancy and even later if the mother's life is in danger.

NO to HB 1280

Debra Leff

Self

Austin, TX

I, Debra Leff, oppose this bill. We have so many issues in our society that are problematic. You have your views and I have mine. I don't understand how you can make a criminal offense out of a decision that a woman makes that affects her life. It is her decision, not ours to make. I am against this bill.

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Laurie Coffin

N/A

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 1280. The trigger ban proposed in HB 1280 is an extreme overreach into the healthcare of all Texas women.

According to a recent Hart Research poll, 77% of Texans agree that whether someone has private or government funded healthcare, it's important for every Texan to be able to get the full range of reproductive healthcare, including annual screenings, birth control, pregnancy tests, and abortion.

It is time for the Texas Legislature to stop violating the privacy of Texas women and stop regulating our healthcare decisions. I urge you to reject these bills and focus on delivering solutions to the real problems Texans currently face.

Joe Luttrell Jr

Self

Burleson, TX

Abortion needs to stop! ALL life is special and everyone deserves the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Life is life in the womb and out. Please, end this destructive practice in our state.

Psalm 139:13-16 ESV (David talking to God)

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them."

Kristy Sanchez

Self

Lubbock, TX

Hello, my name is Kristy, and I would like to thank you for taking the time to read my comment. Firstly, I would like to state that this isn't something that I take lightly, however, I feel that my experiences as a sexual assault survivor trump anyone's religious views. As a child I was molested by my own father from the ages of 8-15; thankfully it did not result in a pregnancy, which regardless of circumstance would have been unwanted. I told my mother at the age of 14, she did not believe me, at the age of 15 I was kicked out of my home. I think what bothers me the most til this day, is the fact that my mother didn't protect me. She chose to protect my abuser. This is not an isolated incidence. There are many women/girls who experience this. I find your proposed bill to be cruel and unusual punishment to girls and women in Texas. There are so many reasons that women choose an abortion. Whether that be financial reasons, abuse, illness, that choice should be made by each individual woman, and most certainly not by your or your religious beliefs. One thing that I've come to realize is we no longer need freedom of religion, we've given religion far too much power. Women now need freedom from religion. When you are elected into your position, you take an oath to serve the people of your state. It's become very clear that you only serve the citizens that think and feel like you. You should not be allowed to make choices for women, and you shouldn't be making choices for women based on your religious views. We know you don't really care about the "cause" but instead care more about re-election. How do I know this? I know this because, you vote to infringe upon our rights, while also voting to take away public assistance programs that would help the children born to the mothers you prevent from having abortions. I'd like to say now, that independent thinking women like myself, will not take this anymore. We are taking note of each and every one of your names, and we are doing everything in our power to get rid of you. You don't serve the women of Texas, you serve your religion and people who believe like you. I know we are supposed to end these comments by asking you to withdraw your support for this bill. However, I feel that my pleas will fall on deaf ears. Instead, I will ask that you think of all women in Texas who need protection instead of persecution.

Rebekah Adams

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Self

McKinney, TX

Babies are pre-born people. They are living beings, not merely clumps of cells, as pro-death folks claim. This is not a religious issue. It is a scientific fact. Pre-born babies deserve the same right to life that post-born people have. Taking the life of a pre-born baby is pre-meditated murder. I support HB 1280.

Natalie Rothen

Self, Teacher

San Antonio, TX

I believe that this bill is unjust and unconstitutional. Not only does it violate the standards set by Roe v. Wade, it also imposes nearly insurmountable restrictions against the healthcare choices of millions of Texans. Abortion care and family planning are valid and widely-used aspects of public healthcare--turning even the seeking of an abortion into a criminal act would turn millions of civilians into criminals when they are just pleading for help in a variety of circumstances. And to go so far as to criminalize abortion even in the cases of rape, incest, and health of the pregnant person being endangered--all of which are exceptions for abortion care widely held and supported by even the most stringent of conservatives--not only endangers a pregnant person's freedom but also their life and health. To pass this would also ignore the basic fact that this and other bills would not stop pregnant people from undergoing abortions: instead, it would push them to seek unsafe methods, such as the infamous "back alley doctors" or the use of household items such as bleach and wire coat-hangers, which can cause everything from irreparable damage of organs to death. So in the purported claim of "saving lives", passing this bill would indeed kill twice as many--we have seen this time and time again throughout our nation, and it is enraging that you are attempting to relive those days against the evidence of science, history, and the lived experiences of millions.

Not to mention the sheer hypocrisy involved in the mass passage of these bills by politicians claiming themselves to be "pro-life": they choose not to focus on aspects that would help negate the downsides of unplanned pregnancies, such as funding for healthcare, education, and childcare, nor do they promote foundations of family planning that would prevent the number of unwanted pregnancies, such as medically-accurate sex education and affordable access to birth control. Instead, the focus seems to be to birth as many children as possible, without taking into regard the health and safety of the pregnant parent or the potential quality of life that awaits the unborn--and then, when the aftermath becomes less than ideal, the attention directs to blaming the pregnant person and/or the born child for those effects, instead of turning one's blame inwards. You cannot criminalize the millions of pregnant people who seek abortions every year, ignore all other effective policies and solutions, and then still claim to be "pro-life"; you are only "pro-birth", seeking to control the bodies of anyone who happens to be born with a uterus.

In passing this bill, we would resemble the most intolerant and undemocratic of societies, as fundamentalist and anti-science as nations with similar policies are today. Instead of making Texas a better state for families, you intend to endanger the lives of your constituents. I want to be proud of my state, not ashamed of our regression. Please reject this bill.

Lori Stockstiel

NCJW SAN ANTONIO

Fair Oaks Ranch, TX

This is completely out of synch with my religious beliefs, which state that a fetus is not considered a human being until it takes its first breath!

Lisa Stone

self: educator

Houston, TX

I join all those, including a majority of Texans, who oppose efforts to limit abortion rights and access. This bill places extensive restrictions on how and when a provider can provide medication abortion. Mifepristone, the medication

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used in a medication abortion, is already subject to FDA restrictions and has a proven safety record.

Medication abortion is extremely safe and effective and gives patients the option to end their pregnancy at home or in another setting in which they feel comfortable, while still providing them with the medical support and information they need.

Any attempt to restrict medication abortion is clearly motivated by politics, not science.

This bill is in direct conflict with the FDA label. In April 2019, the FDA approved the first generic form of mifepristone, following a review of the evidence that medication abortion is a safe, effective way to end an early pregnancy — with a safety record of over 99%.

This bill takes enforcement decisions out of the hands of local governments.

I urge you to oppose HB 1280, and all HBs that aim to diminish women's abortion rights.

Isabel Ray, Mrs.

self; communications

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 1280. Every Texan deserves the right to determine if, when, and how to make their family, which includes having the right to choose abortion. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy against their will is harmful to real, individual Texans and does not "protect life"—instead it significantly increases the odds that the patient and their children will live in poverty.

I believe, like the majority of Texans do, that abortion must remain legal and safe. I believe that pregnant people don't lose their constitutional rights when they become pregnant. I strongly oppose HB 1280 and urge all members of the committee to vote against the bill.

Blake Dymond

Self

Farmersville, TX

Hello fellow Texans. I beg you to support/pass HB 1280. Too many lives have been taken before they even had the chance to breath fresh air, or see a whole new world for the first time. We will never know what wonderful, amazing, innovative, or life changing things those people could have done. Because they were “terminated” before they had that chance. Every baby growing inside it’s mother’s womb deserves life just as much as anyone walking the earth, and for those mothers who decide they don’t want a baby, that’s okay. There are many families and couples who are either desperately wanting another child or can not have one that will gladly accept that responsibility. Thank you for your time.

Mary Mabry

self

Spring, TX

Please be aware that the majority of American citizens believe that abortion should be safe and legal, for many reasons. These penalties are NOT desired by the majority of Americans, and are repugnant to me.

Jim Mitchell

Self

Arlington, TX

Please pass this bill!

Carol Ortiz, Ms.

self/retired

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Montgomery, TX

I OPPOSE HB 1280. Please vote NO to advance this bill.

Danna Ghafir

Self

Sugar Land, TX

My name is Danna Ghafir, and I am a medical student in Texas, and I oppose HB 1280. I'm writing to urge you to support bills that improve women's health care in Texas and oppose the bills that do not, and HB 1280 will have horrible consequences for the health of Texas women.

We are taught in medical school that, as future physicians, we must advocate for the fundamental principles of autonomy, social justice, and the primacy of patient welfare. HB 1280 is an extreme and dangerous bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions. This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

As a medical student with expertise in the science of reproductive healthcare, I urge you to oppose the anti-abortion bills that will prove to be extremely dangerous to the health of Texans, including my future patients.

Kaye Barnes, Mrs.

Self, homemaker

Azle, TX

Please protect the lives of the unborn.

Sharon Hill, Mrs

Self

Friendswood, TX

I Totally support this Bill... we are killing a whole generation of American citizens.

Migdalia Serrano

Self

Katy, TX

Please protect the unborn. We are their voices. Life begins at conception.

We need to provide some alternative to these moms so that abortion is not the solution.

Cindy McIntyre

Self

Conroe, TX

We must recognize life when a heartbeat is heard & protect all preborn babies at all costs. This bill is definitely a step in the right direction. Vote yes for HB 1280.

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Kerry Ward
God
Stephenville, TX

Abortion is murder. Why is it still legal??

Jennifer Conner, MRS.
self; music teacher
The Woodlands, TX

I strongly OPPOSE HB 1280. This bill is against the constitution of the United States of America. This bill infringes on the rights of American women. Abortion Care IS Health care. Vote against HB 1280.

Connie Matthews
Self - CPA
Temple, TX

My name is Connie Matthews and I personally oppose HB 1280. This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. Please do not put this burden on Texans.

Lea Isgur
self
Austin, TX

I am strongly against this bill. I think a woman should have a choice to end a pregnancy, and the government has no business deciding when this should occur. You have your religious beliefs, and I have mine. I don't believe that life begins until birth, and before that time, it is not a child, it is a FETUS. Don't impose your religious views on me and others! This is a free country and religious freedom is guaranteed, including the rights of pregnant women, with their own moral compasses, over the rights of fetuses. Please vote against this horrible accost to women!

Kathleen Davis
Self, Office Manager
DALLAS, TX

My name is Kathleen Davis and I oppose bill HB1280. Taking away safe legal abortions and criminalizing them will not stop women from having/doing an abortion. All this will do is cause women to practice self abortion or visit an unsanitary place to have this performed which can lead to loss of life for the woman. Please consider this when looking at any of these anti-abortion bills presented to you. Place yourself (walk a mile in someone else's shoes) in what a woman goes through when making this tough decision. It is not easy but when the final decision is made it should be safe and legal. Making abortions unavailable doesn't make them miraculously disappear, they will still be there no matter what so they need to be safe and legal. Thank you for your consideration on opposing HB1280.

Carrie Todd
Self HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760
Ft worth, TX
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This is regarding the bills going before committee trying to restrict access to legal healthcare for women. I oppose all of these bills: HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760

If during the pandemic you gave the reason "my body, my choice" about mask wearing, do not be a hypocrite. It's what Texans hate most in politicians.

Do better. Represent all the people.

Frank Wissler, Mr.
self, maintenance tech
Spring Branch, TX

I oppose this draconian measure to interfere in a woman's right to manage the healthcare of her own body. Why does "personal responsibility" not matter here?

Patricia Flournoy
None
Ovilla, TX

Women already have the right to choose when they get pregnant they should not have the right to murder their child. Once conceived the child has its own rights and we should protect this most vulnerable human being.

Laura Richardson, Dr
Self, teacher
Houston, TX

My name is Laura Richardson, and I oppose this House Bill. Access to abortion is a women's health issue. Forced birth is against the American (and Texan!) values of individual rights and liberty. Please allow women the human right of bodily autonomy and reject this legislation.
Thank you.

Sylvia Campbell
self
The Woodlands, TX

Dear Committee Members,
I encourage you to oppose HB 1280. This bill takes away a woman's right to make reproductive health decisions for her own body. Other people should not be making the decisions for her.
Thank you,
Sylvia Campbell

Daniel Kanter, Rev. Dr.
First Unitarian Church of Dallas
dallas, TX

this is a ridiculous attack on civil liberties and the right of a medical professional to conduct a procedure. This bill should not proceed. please be courageous and stop this bill.

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Lorri Haden

Self/Retired

Austin, TX

My name is Lorri Haden, I am writing to oppose HB 1280. The only meaningful way to reduce abortions is to make birth control affordable and widely available, to make quality healthcare affordable and widely available, and to make affordable and available the necessary supports for parents to care for children with complex medical needs. HB 1280 does none of these things and is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

I urge you to vote NO on HB 1280.

Christine Hurley

self

Houston, TX

My name is Christine Hurley and I oppose House Bill 1280. Honestly, I have nothing nice to say to a single person who would support this bill, you're so clearly out of touch with human decency, there's no saving you. Reject this outlandish, brutal bill. Shame on you monsters for making heartbroken families carry babies with lethal fetal diagnoses. You are cruel, you are heartless, you do not deserve my time.

Christine Middleton

Self Retired

Corpus Christi, TX

As with all the other anti-abortion bills, this is very dangerous. It will push desperate women to take desperate measures and will steer them to back alley abortions. Choosing an abortion is a very personal decision and no woman should have to deal with condemnation from outside sources when dealing with this. The operative word is choice. No man can truly understand what is involved in such a decision.

Neil Cohen

self

Austin, TX

You anti-abortionists are like a carpenter whose only tool is a sledge hammer. Whenever you're faced with a construction job, you smash everything to pieces. If you really want to reduce abortions, you should adopt measures to help pregnant women and mothers of newborns. See the conservative column Ross Douthat -- What Has the Pro-Life Movement Won? You should ""brainstorm all the community support systems that would need to be stronger in a world where abortion is illegal: mental health services, addiction-recovery programs, affordable child care." <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/02/opinion/pro-life-movement-14th-amendment.html>. To criminalize abortion without such measures is not only ineffective -- women facing impossible choices will manage to get abortions -- but cruel, and leads to the wasted lives of helpless children. Ironic that you guys claim to believe in personal freedom -- such as the freedom not to wear a mask when that simple measure might save lives, except when it's the freedom of a woman to make one of the most important choices in her life. Instead of criminalizing abortions, how about criminalizing guys who get women pregnant when they don't want to be?

Kaylan Smith

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self

Houston, TX

It is appalling as a woman to hear my government representatives try to push legislature forward that would set women back by 50 years. This extremist agenda and HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760 are bills that are unnecessary. I do not understand why conservative representatives continue to push anti-abortion laws when they have shown time and time again, they don't care about the welfare of the mothers or babies born.

I would like a government that focuses on real problems with our healthcare. How about the number of uninsured Texans? Children that need medical care? Children that are below the poverty line and often suffer food insecurity?

Crystal Gonzalez

Self - resident of San Antonio, TX

San Antonio, TX

My name is Crystal Gonzalez and I oppose House Bill 2337 because it restricts access to abortion.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

I care about abortion access because every person has a right to choose the size of their family.

Rebecca Marques

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose this dangerous and harmful bill.

A Greer Francis, Mrs.

Individual-mental health

San Antonio, TX

I am opposed to HB 1280. Thank you.

Michele Scott

Self

Snyder, TX

My name is Michele Scott and I oppose House Bill 1280."

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

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Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

I urge you to reject this bill.

Moniqa Paultet

TEA Fund

Richardson, TX

My name is Moniqa Paultet and I am a native Texan serving on the board of directors for TEA Fund. I'm writing today in opposition of HB 1280. This bill is a gross violation of bodily autonomy and basic human rights. The United Nations Human Rights Commission asserts that access to abortion is an essential human right. Forcing someone to carry an unwanted or unviable pregnancy is absolutely inhumane. Each Texan deserves the right to decide for themselves and their families what is right for them, based on the advice of their doctor, not overreaching, draconian legislation. Criminalizing abortion is committing real harm and violence against women and marginalized communities. Reject HB 1280.

Natasha Rappazzo

Planned Parenthood Greater Texas

Arlington, TX

My name is natasha rappazzo and I oppose HB 1280. Abortion is a safe and normal medical procedure that 1 in 4 people will need at some point in their lifetime. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. Please do not move forward with this extremist bill. Protect healthcare. Oppose 1280

Susan Powers

self

Conroe, TX

Making abortion doesn't stop them from happening; it just makes them potentially lethal for the desperate women who seek them.

Kayleigh Garcia

Texas Equal Access Fund

Garland, TX

My name is Kayleigh Garcia and I oppose HB 1280.

I personally oppose this bill because I love someone who has exercised their right to have an abortion. This complete ban on abortions in Texas will create unnecessary hardships and heartbreaks for families wishing to abort after an unfortunate lethal fetus diagnosis. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. HB 1280 will not put an end to abortions, it will only end safe and legal abortions. I urge you to oppose HB 1280.

DORA VANN

SELF RETIRED

SAN ANTONIO, TX

My name is Dora Vann. This ban would take away my rights to my own body. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting

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impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. Please reject this outrageous control of my reproductive rights.

Ashley Shahan

Self

Fulshear, TX

We need to protect the life of the unborn!!!! It's time Texas takes a stand to protect life and do all we can to protect the unborn!!

Ashley Shahan

Donna Cunningham, Mrs

self

Big Spring, TX

I am in favor of creating abortion laws to make it a criminal offense.

George Rex

Self - security consultant

Flower Mound, TX

Support HB 3326 which abolishes abortion in Texas and recognizes that pre-born children are US citizens and have equal protection under the Constitution. This bill doesn't end abortion and allows for a broad definition of "Reasonable medical judgment" to be used by abortion doctors to continue to take a pre-born life.

Stella Glentz

self/ Woman

Leander, TX

"My name is Stella Del Valle- Glentz and I oppose House Bill HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760 These bills are some of the most extreme abortion bills in the country! How dare you tell us what we can't or can do with our bodies. THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! Should be focusing on healthcare, Covid19, Mental health. STOP these extreme bills!!!!

Sierra Valdez

Self

Helotes, TX

My name is Sierra Valdez, and I oppose House Bill 1515, House Bill 1280, House Bill 2337, House Bill 2313, House Bill 3218, & House Bill 3760.

You're really going to consider going through with these absurd bills? **CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR ABORTION SERVICES?** This makes me want to have an abortion even more. What is the big issue with you Republicans and women wanting to terminate their unwanted pregnancies. Condoms & contraceptives don't always work you bozos.

Abortion access is **CRUCIAL** to women. We already don't have much as it is, how can you even think of putting a restriction on our **OWN BODIES?**

I am strongly urging you to reject this legislation. Please.

VANESSA LOZADA

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self; healthcare administrator

Fort Worth, TX

My name is Vanessa Lozada, and I oppose House Bill 1280. Though I've never had an abortion, I have considered it. Getting pregnant while on birth control as a teenager, I made the choice to be a struggling single mom. Though I didn't choose to terminate, it's important that I had that choice. This bill is unconstitutional and creates unnecessary hurdles for those who DO make the choice to terminate their pregnancy. Medical providers cannot and should not be held accountable for properly caring for their patient, no matter what the decision may be. Bills like this will not stop abortions. It will only make those seeking one go underground, and take even bigger risks to access this healthcare. I urge you to reject this legislation.

Rebekah Adams

Self

McKinney, TX

Hello. Please support HB 1280. Everyone, including the pre-born, have a moral and constitutional right to life. Roe v Wade was an unconstitutional tragedy (and bad law at that). The great state of Texas should not cower from the pro-death lobby, although they are well-funded and powerful, but rather stand for life and liberty. Bless representative Capriglione for sponsoring this bill.

Staci Mendelsohn, Mrs.

self

Plano, TX

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Victoria Brown

self

Dallas, TX

Texas women and families deserve better. Planned Parenthood provides essential healthcare services, including safe abortion, for thousands of Texas women. I support all the critical health services they provide.

SUELLEN MYERS

Mr.

THE WOODLANDS, TX

Please let all these abortion bills die in committee. As a lifelong Catholic, mother of three grown children and grandmother of five I believe in and support the primacy of individual conscience. The question of whether to get an abortion is an issue between a woman, God and her doctor - how dare you intrude your personal convictions into that deliberation

Sara Herrington

Me

Beaumont, TX

Abortion is a right that every american should have.

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Lori Boyter

Self

Haltom City, TX

I whole heartedly support this bill!

Michelle Tesch

Self

Farmers Branch, TX

I support the prohibition of abortion. It is not "healthcare". If a woman's health is in danger during pregnancy, an emergency c-section would be performed, not the killing of the preborn child.

Linda L. Kenner

self and all sensible intelligent women in Texas

Richardson, TX

Texas women not state legislature have the right to decisions and choices about their own bodies and health---including abortion with no civil or criminal penalty---the legislator suggesting this bill should be arrested and penalized.

Theresa Garza, Ms.

self - clerk

San Antonio, TX

Until all women have equal, unfettered, guaranteed access to well-paying jobs, monetary support from the biological father of their child, good schools for the child, unlimited safe childcare, protection from abusive partners, easily accessible 24 hour safe transportation, and quality healthcare for themselves and their children: no entity (person, organization or law) who is not the pregnant woman should have any say in her personal decision to have a child or terminate a pregnancy. Period. Until all other support systems are in place & guaranteed, safe abortion access is essential.

Danna Half

self

San Antonio, TX

Please vote against this bill. Criminalizing a woman's choice to self-determination of her future is a serious governmental overreach.

Emily Witt

self

Austin, TX

My name is Emily Witt and I vehemently oppose bill HB 1280.

This bill is unconstitutional in that it violates the protections given to individuals under Roe v. Wade. The author clearly does not care about children or women, but only about shame and incarceration, a system that is deeply failed in the United States already.

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Has the author considered the hardship of unwanted pregnancy, coupled with the trauma of being put in jail for taking control and ownership over your own body and future? This bill is not meant to protect anyone and would it's outrageous that there are no exceptions, not even for fetal abnormality, which is a heartbreaking decision for a family. Again, this protects no one and serves no one, like every other abortion bill.

Linda L. Kenner
self

Richardson, TX

Texas women deserve the individual right to abortion as wanted and needed without any other person nor state entity impinging upon their individual choice.

Eric D.
Sel, investor
Austin, TX

My name is Eric and I oppose HB 1280.

Denying access to abortion care through HB1280 has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Access to safe medical services of any kind, including abortion, are critical to the health of our community.

This frivolous bill wastes the precious time of the Texas Legislature, please reject it and move on to more important matters that can help all Texans.

Thank you.

Mindy Lusk
Self - teacher
San Angelo, TX

Protect the right to life.

Valerie Gomez
Woman's rights
Austin, TX

I am a 21 year old female citizen of the state of texas. As of right now I am struggling financially to make ends meet. I live in a goddamn trailer and can barely afford it. I can't afford health insurance. I can barely afford groceries for myself and my boyfriend. AND I HAVE A FULL TIME JOB THAT I WENT TO SCHOOL FOR. Passing a bill that would ban abortion and make it illegal to get one is extremely unorthodox. If I got pregnant I COULD NOT AFFORD THIS CHILD. not to mention the physiological effects it would have on mother's that are FORCED to have a child they don't want or can't afford and then having to turn it in to foster care knowing the child would be neglected just like the thousands of children that are in over populated foster homes already. My rights as a WOMAN are trying to be taken away from me. And I will NOT stand for it. Who gave MEN the authority to make decisions about WOMENS BODIES??? MY BODY MY CHOICE!!!! Abortion should ALWAYS be an option. ALWAYS. Let me ask you this, do you remember being in the womb? Seriously, do you remember? Within the time frame women are allowed to get abortions that is NOT a child in there. It is an embryo. With no memory, no feeling, it can't even think for itself. there is NO HARM DONE IN TERMINATING AN EMBRYO that would be born to women who either don't want a

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child and will neglect them, or be born to a woman that's a drug addict selling themselves on the corner, being born to a woman who can barely afford to take care of herself and or the children she already has, to be born to a woman with an abusive husband or boyfriend, to be born to a woman with bipolar disorder, anxiety, and depression. To be born to a woman who isn't in her right physiological state, to be born to a woman who downright DOES NOT WANT A CHILD. Why should women have to throw off their hormones and healthy mental state to be put on a pill that makes us bleed in between periods, makes us more depressed than we already are, ruins relationships, and messes with our bodies?? WHY SHOULD WOMEN HAVE TO TAKE SYNTHETIC DRUGS TO REGULATE OUR BODIES BECAUSE THE CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES HAVE A PROBLEM WITH TERMINATING A EMBRYO THAT WOULD BE BORN INTO A SHITTY WORLD WHERE WOMENS RIGHTS ARE BEING TAKEN AWAY, RACISM IS PRESENT, GENTRIFICATION IS TAKING PLACE, GLOBAL WARMING, AND MEN ARE TRYING TO CONTROL WOMENS BODIES. Absolutely not. The christian community can practice their beliefs and live by their own rules as they please. But I will NOT allow them to feel like they have any sense of authority when it comes to MY LIFE and what I chose to do with MY OWN BODY. My body, my choice. It will NEVER be yours.

Diana Collins, Mrs

Self, high school science teacher 31 years in Texas

Iowa Park, TX

I have a Microbiology/Chemistry degree from Texas Tech, Masters in Physiology from MSU Wichita Falls. From a scientific view and Christian view life begins at conception. My brother's family adopted 2 of their 3 children. My first cousin's adult children and adult grand children have adopted many children, some of which have terrible problems. They LOVE them. Everyone deserves the chance for life that God has given them.

Elisa Gonzalez

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

- HB1280 Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families, and every child deserves to be wanted.

Kamryn Paxton

Self - Service Worker

Boerne, TX

Women's right to choose is our individual freedom. Prohibiting the right to choose is an infringement on our rights to be free.

Shawn Troxell, Ms

Self

New Braunfels, TX

To whomever reads this:

I am very much against HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760. My representative, knows my opinion. He believes, like the supporters of these bills, that their religious beliefs should be forced upon all of us.

They believe life begins at conception. Science proves it does not.

Therefore, these bills cannot become laws because they infringe upon my rights. There can be no using religion to make a law. Don't you agree?

In denying women the right to choose you are condemning many of us to a harder life, with more obstacles, often shamed as a single mother, unable to find a good paying job and hours that work while also raising a child.

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It seems to me that you simply don't care about us.
What I do to my body is not your choice.
NOT your choice.
The choice is mine.

You must not allow these bills up for discussion, much less a vote. Too many men, too many religious men, too many white old religious men simply cannot be allowed to debate a woman's right to choose.
I'm not alone in my anger over these bills.
So I will be watching what's happening and sharing with my family, friends, and former students.

Georgia Keysor

Self - Retired

Austin, TX

I oppose the anti-choice bills that are scheduled for a hearing in the House Public Health Committee this Wednesday, April 7th. These bills take freedoms away from Texans and would allow lawsuits against providers and individual people. If abortion is essentially outlawed, it will lead to many unnecessary deaths in this state, which is incredible considering our stellar record of maternal mortality. This mismanaged state's bungled response to COVID has killed over 50,000 Texans to date. Our vaccination program is among the two or three worst in the nation. And you can't even keep the lights on. I oppose House Bills 1280, 1515, 2313, 2337, 3218, and 3760 because I think medical decisions of this nature should be between a woman, her family, her pastor and her physician. I do not understand why you think a politician or a bureaucrat needs to be part of that discussion.

Adrienne Abrahamson

self (tutor)

Roanoke, TX

My name is Adrienne Abrahamson and I oppose House Bill 1280. I am very concerned that time and effort continues to be spent on attempting to ban and/or restrict abortion. Instead, I believe legislators should be spending resources on addressing current emergencies and serious issues that affect so many living Texans. Abortion is healthcare, and our lawmakers should be expanding access to healthcare, not restricting it further. I strongly oppose House Bill 1280, as it is an extreme bill that makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion - denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. The Texas House needs to focus on the real crises facing Texans like access to health care, responding to COVID-19, maternal mortality, and the energy crisis, not Dan Patrick's political agenda.

Jennifer Bezner

self

Smithville, TX

I 100% support this bill! Please protect the most innocent! It is time for Texas to start caring for all Texans!

Jeri Lynn Scott

Self

New Braunfels, TX

My name is Jeri Lynn Scott, I'm the Executive Director for Resources for Women and represent myself and the hundreds of post abortive women that I have personally counseled over the past 20 years. I am in full support HB1280 the human Life Protection Act.

I am 54 years old. At the age of 16,

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I had an abortion, 38 years later my abortion still affect many aspects of my life today. Myself and millions of other post abortive women have suffered a great loss for far to long. The silent suffering of post abortion syndrome has stolen far to many women's life's and it's time to take a stand and end this tragic suffering for all future women.

I have spent the last 20 years of my life helping Texas women find healing and hope after their abortion. I have witnessed first hand the heartache a woman faces and lives with after her abortion. Prior to her abortion she is trapped into thinking that an abortion is the best choice for her. That is the biggest lie of all!

After a woman chooses to have an abortion its a much different story. For most post abortive women, every year that passes you calculate what Birthday this would be for your aborted child and you think about the many milestones that you missed out on. For me my son or daughter would be 38 years old today. Not only have I taken my child's life but possibly now my grandchildren's life. My abortion has potentially effected 3 generations.

But the most difficult part of coming to terms with your abortion is the grief and shame. It takes hold of your life and the grip that has on you can, for many be unbearable.

I have had to rely on anti depressants to help me cope with my abortion, even today. The anxiety and fear from my thoughts of my 2nd trimester surgical abortion are overwhelming. I have even thought about suicide many times.

But thanks to the love and hope I have in my Lord Jesus Christ I have been able to find forgiveness and healing.

This is not just my story.

As a proud Texas woman, born and raised I am an advocate for all women born and unborn.

We must stop killing our most valuable resource, our future Texans and stand arm in arm to protect the most precious and most innocent in our great state.

I truly believe with all my heart that women do not want to have a choice to take the life of their baby. They want support and love by those around her.

Did you know that the father of the baby is the #1 deciding factor on whether a woman will keep her baby or have an abortion?

It is statistically proven that when given the proper education and resources 96% of abortion determined women will choose life for their unborn baby. I know this because I counsel with these young women and I hear their stories daily.

Please vote yes on HB1280 and remove the "choice" from the the hands of these precious woman who feels trapped to make this horrible decision.

Abortion is the only elective surgery that permanently stops one beating heart and breaks the other.

Thank you!
Jeri Lynn Scott

Barbara Smith, Mrs.

Self

Bryan, TX

Please do everything you can to stop the killing of unborn babies. They are separate human beings from their mothers and have altogether separate DNA. Baby Lives Matter Too!

Elizabeth Guess

Self

Frisco, TX

I implore any and all who read this, to fight for our most innocent, vulnerable, precious, and voiceless among us, our children in the wombs. We need to do everything in our power to allow them the opportunity to be given God's timeline for their life, NOT to be ended abruptly by another human's choice (also known as murder). A nation who slaughters their most innocent will never

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be a nation that can stand. Let's draw a circle around Texas first and end this genocide. Chose to be on the right side of history and more importantly as you stand before the throne of God, He will call you a defender of the weak and powerless, as you chose life, morality, and righteousness. Do something with the power that has been granted to you from God's authority to end this evils.

I believe if you criminalize the act of abortion for doctors or anyone who performs the abortion this will end the murders or at least limit them and have consequences for their murders. Murder is already a law, just acknowledge that the lives inside the wombs are just as valuable and equal life as those outside the womb. The time is now.

MJ Tharp, Mrs.

Self, teacher

SAN ANGELO, TX

Please support life. Thank you.

Brandy Chambers

Perkins Coie

GARLAND, TX

I am a mother. I am an employee. I am a wife. I decided to become a mother well after I fell in love with my husband and married. I decided to become a mother when we could financially handle another mouth to feed and body to clothe. I decided to become a mother when I knew I was ready to be a mother. This was MY decision. I am a grown adult who should be the only one making decisions about my body, my health, and my readiness to be a mother. This should NOT be the power of the state. This bill is gross overreach of the state's power over women. I firmly oppose such a bill and am embarrassed that Texas legislators continue to pursue the enslavement of women by denying them health care and autonomy to make life changing decisions without government interference.

Maureen Powers

retired

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill for the reason that it denies women, who are sentient beings, the right to access healthcare for an unwanted pregnancy.

Jesus Archuleta

Jesus Christ

Big Spring, TX

I couldn't be there to speak tomorrow so thank you for the opportunity to send my message via the internet. For 48 years we have allowed the murder of the unborn and today we continue to allow for it. We must ask ourselves what are doing in regards to abortion, are we try to end abortion or are we just going to continue to regulate it. All of these pro-life bills but forward do nothing to end the Holocaust of the unborn and continue to prove that a Republican dominant house goal is to never end abortion but to chip away at the majority of it so they seem like heroes. We are no longer going to tolerate that line of thinking. We demand abolition and we demand it now. You may claim to be pro-life but your actions have proven over and over again that you are not. The only bill that will end abortion immediately in the state of Texas is HB 3326. It provides the necessary equal protection from the conception that the unborn baby deserves. What will you do to end abortion in the state of Texas? Why won't you give HB3326 a hearing? Why do you continue to allow this Holocaust to take place? You might not answer me on this issue but you will have to answer to God. He will hold you accountable for what you have allowed to happen and continue to happen. I pray you to end this. God has placed you in your positions for a reason, to punish evil and to reward those who do good. The longer you allow for child sacrifice to continue the longer your asking for God's wrath to abide on you. 55,000 unborn babies yearly demand that they get the justice and protection they deserve, when will you give it to them?

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Amanda Stoffels

self- educator

Keller, TX

Please continue to work towards banning all abortions in Texas. The act of abortion is murder of innocent lives.

Lauren Fazio

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Lauren Fazio, and I oppose House Bill 1280. As a proud Texan and US adult citizen, I value the ability to make choices related to my own body and my own family planning. We in Texas value the ability to make choices that benefit our households and strongly oppose the government from developing policy that takes away our personal freedoms and choice. In the same way we value private businesses to regulate themselves, we as people should be able to regulate our present and futures. The consequences of this proposed bill would directly impact women's lives, increase death in women (in attempts to make the best choices they can for themselves and their families left to manage in unsafe ways), and disproportionately impact women of color across Texas. Additionally, our Texas child welfare system is already overtaxed. We should invest in proactive work to strengthen families, allow women to earn more at their jobs, and INCREASE access to women's healthcare, not reduce it. Anti-choice legislation has NO place in Texans' lives and directly violates our local values and constitution. I strongly urge you all to reject HB 1280.

Angelica Harrison

self

Austin, TX

Please do not pass this bill. Reproductive rights are a human right and everyone should have their right to choose!

Karen Wells

Self

Houston, TX

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Carly Hudson, Mrs

Self

Kingwood, TX

Abortion is our legal right. I oppose any legislation that takes away my right to a safe and legal abortion.

Khadija Hassan, Ms.

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n/a

Georgetown, TX

Abortion is a medical decision between the patient and the healthcare provider/physician. Healthcare should never be a criminal offense.

Piper Madland

Self

HOUSTON, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. It is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Brenda Mondragon

self

HOUSTON, TX

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Amy Hunt

self, marketing consultant

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because Texas women should be able to make this decision on her own without the interference of the government. Abortion isn't an easy decision, but women should have the right to a safe, legal abortion if they need one.

Katie Palin

self, cashier

Arlington, TX

Every person has the right to access the healthcare that they need. Abortion is healthcare and the government has no place to try to legislate people's bodies.

Katie O'leary

Self

irving, TX

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also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

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Anita Knight

AAUW

West Lake Hills, TX

I support safe and legal abortions. It should be a private decision between a patient and her GOD and her doctor. Our elected representatives do not need and should not be expected to be involved inhibiting this legal right.

Barbara Garbacz

Self - retired

Dallas, TX

My name is Barbara and I oppose HB1280. This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Andrew Perretta

N/A

Schertz, TX

Hello. My name is Andrew Perretta. I'm a voting constituent in Guadalupe County. I oppose HB 1280. Abortion is health care and is fully legal in the United States. I support a pregnant person's right to choose when they want to start a family. As a Texas taxpayer, I don't want public funds used to defend these unconstitutional bills in federal courts.

Please vote no on this bill. Thank you.

Michael Youngquist

Self

Austin, TX

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

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Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Sonya Roberts

Self (Occupation: Manager)

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Austin, TX

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This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

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Daniel Walker

self

San Antonio, TX

I am OPPOSED to any bill that restricts abortion services. Abortion should be safe and LEGAL. Restricting abortion services simply causes women to seek illegal and unsafe abortions.

Lucy Wimmer

Self

AUSTIN, TX

My name is Lucy Wimmer and I am in opposition to HB 1280.

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Katherine Goethe, PhD

self

San Antonio, TX

Abortion is health care. In the 1600's and 1700's, abortion was criminalized, and it did not make any difference. Indeed, juries were very reluctant to convict people accused of abortion. Please don't take us back to those times. Please do not allow this bill to go forward. Thank you.

Harmony Smith

Self

Austin, TX

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. Ultimately, a vote for this bill will

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increase the spending that the state will have on welfare and the amount of Texans in poverty. Either way, Texans lose if HB 1280 is passed.

shamyra coleman

Planned Parenthood of Texas

shiner, TX

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Marie LeBlanc

self, program director

Austin, TX

My name is Marie LeBlanc and I opposed House Bill HB 1280. As a working, independent woman, it's important to me that I know I can control my reproductive journey and personal health. Having access to safe, legal abortion is part of that peace of mind. This bill would make it impossible for me to access abortion services if I needed them, given how restrictive it is. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. I care about all Texas women accessing the health care and abortion care they need because women should be in charge of their own bodies and get to make the choice about when and how to become a parent. I oppose this bill because it effectively makes it nearly impossible for most women to chose abortion services if they need them.

Amber Donley

Self

Dallas, TX

My name is Amber Donley and I oppose HB 1280. Abortion rights are women's rights and this is a DIRECT attack on women's right to access safe medical procedures.

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

I encourage you to oppose this bill and remember women deserve access to safe medical procedures and that medical procedures are not a matter to be discussed between the state and a woman, but a private matter between a woman and her doctor!

Jim Caldwell, Mr

Self

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Arlington, TX

Making abortion a criminal offense is the best solution

Roxanne Werner

Self

Houston, TX

I am opposed to this bill. Women have a right to their own bodily autonomy and the right to make their own medical choices.

Madelyn Morneault

self

Austin, TX

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. This bill is dangerous.

Maritza Diaz

Citizen

Austin, TX

Please let's stop abortion, it is killing humans.

Colleen Pomeroy

Independent

Andrews, TX

Abortion is not birth control. It is murder. There are many forms of birth control available to both male and female there is NO excuse for abortion unless the mothers life is in danger if she carries the baby. Otherwise its murder.

Teri Hughes, MS.

Self/Cashier

Beaumont, TX

I beg you, as leaders and lawmakers, to stop the abominable practice of aborting human babies...latin word "fetus"...by any means possible. Many women are as ignorant and desperate as I was when I had an abortion in 1978, my live-in boyfriend had enrolled in an ROTC-like program and was enrolled in college to become a Marine Corps officer when I discovered I was pregnant, and having no idea what I was doing I made an appointment at Planned Parenthood. The abortionist told me I was 2 weeks too far along to be legally worked on but I'd paid my \$200 plus and he'd do me a favor...afterward I bled so badly they let me stay until the next batch of women scheduled for abortions were brought in and my boyfriend came to pick me up, still bleeding badly. That night I passed tissue because I hadn't been cleaned out properly, including a perfect little dime-sized foot chopped cleanly off at the ankle. I called my boyfriend into the bathroom and cried to him as I realized, too late, what I had actually been part of at the expense of another human life and my own baby...which is the crux of the matter. Father God has forgiven me but the ignorance and self-indulgence that leads to these situations is tragic. U.S. law has been interpreted to dictate that any illegal infant born here is a legal citizen, yet we are killing U.S. citizens after birth by deliberate neglect because we are hardhearted, and grieve the heart

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of our great Creator. In the name of that Great Creator I beg of you that you do His Will and stand for the Truth that every life is precious and can be redeemed even as every one of us has wished to be from the reality of unwise actions at some time...life is fragile, and the murder continues. May Father God bless you and give you the urgency and strength to make the blessed decision rather than an uninformed, ignorant one!

Jeanette Cacciola

Self. Human Resources professional

Leander, TX

Any Bill that seeks to prevent a woman's access to a legal and safe abortion in r that seeks to impose civil or criminal penalties is a travesty. Roe v. Wade makes this medical procedure legal in our nation. Those seeking to take away the right of any woman to make decisions about her own body, many times with her husband or partner, when faced with an unbearably crushing situation of her own life being at risk or the fetus being unable to live outside the womb, are anything but "pro life". This bill is anti woman, anti privacy, and often anti health care. Stay out of the deeply private affairs of a woman and her doctor.

Ollie Miles

SELF

Sugar Land, TX

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Ollie Miles

self

Sugar Land, TX

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Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Veronica Ramos

Self, Social Worker and Health Equity Designer

HOUSTON, TX

My name is Veronica Ramos and I oppose House Bill 1280.

Abortion access is important to me because I am a survivor of rape. I was able to terminate a pregnancy that was completely against my will. Without safe and accessible abortion services in Texas, I would have taken my life after that traumatic incident. I oppose this bill and hope that you will also oppose this bill and help protect others who find themselves in a desperate time of need.

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Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and their children living in poverty.

Your job is to protect the rights, health, and freedoms of the citizens of Texas. This includes allowing people to choose what is best for their own lives and bodies, approving this bill would go completely against that. I urge you to say NO to HB 1280.

Adrienne Nisbet

self/ teacher

San Antonio, TX

My name is Adrienne Nisbet and I oppose House Bill 1280. I oppose this bill because it is way too restrictive for access to getting a safe abortion. I also do not want to punish doctors for helping provide women with safe abortions. This will force women to carry out a pregnancy or take matters into their own hands and do an abortion that could be harmful to themselves. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. I oppose HB1280 because all women should have access to a safe abortion.

Maureen Tomasino

self

San Antnoio, TX

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

David Porter

Self/teacher

Mertzon, TX

Please preserve life of an unborn child. I am definitely against abortion. Thank you for prayerfully considering this!

Angelique and Marc Van Bavel

self

Austin, TX

Abortion is an important element of women's rights because women are more affected by the abortion debate than men, both individually (if they are considering an abortion) and as a gender.

If abortion rights are denied, then a constraint is imposed on women's freedom to act in a way that is of great importance to them, both for its own sake and for the sake of their achievement of equality;

Women need the right to abortion in order to have the same freedoms as men. Women have a moral right to decide what to do with their bodies. The right to abortion is vital for gender equality.

Women must have full rights over their own bodies (including the right to decide whether or not to carry a fetus to birth).

Every woman should be able to decide for herself, if and when to start a family. Women need free access to abortion in order to achieve full political, social, and economic equality with men.

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Reproductive freedom is a woman's right.

Banning abortion puts women at risk by forcing them to use illegal abortionists.

It is a constitutional right of women to legally obtain an abortion.

As your Texas constituents we are asking you to oppose these abortion related bills. Thank you for your service.

Dena Porter

Self/teacher

Mertzon, TX

Please consider the rights of the unborn who cannot speak for themselves! Those children **MUST** have a right to life! I would like to see abortion prohibited! Please pray about this before the vote.

Ellen Hoffman

Self

Dallas, TX

Women need access to safe, legal abortions

Rod Fulce

Self retired

Amarillo, TX

Please don't waste your time with a bill that won't stop abortion. We need to become the nation that protects life, a nation for the unborn, children, teenagers, young adults and the elderly. Please try your best we depend upon you and are praying for y'all!!

Brenda Harrison, Mrs

Pepper's Grandbabies

Midland, TX

I support life. Studies clearly show women regret having an abortion. Abortion also increases the mother's risk of cancer. The saddest part is the loss of life! Choose life!

Evelyn Villoria

Self RN

Cedar hill, TX

I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to please hear HB 1280 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Angelique and Marc Van Bavel

self

Austin, TX

Abortion is an important element of women's rights because women are more affected by the abortion debate than men, both individually (if they are considering an abortion) and as a gender.

If abortion rights are denied, then a constraint is imposed on women's freedom to act in a way that is of great importance to them, both for its own sake and for the sake of their achievement of equality;

Women need the right to abortion in order to have the same freedoms as men. Women have a moral right to decide what to do with their bodies. The right to abortion is vital for gender equality.

Women must have full rights over their own bodies (including the right to decide whether or not to carry a fetus to birth).

Every woman should be able to decide for herself, if and when to start a family. Women need free access to abortion in order to achieve full political, social, and economic equality with men.

Reproductive freedom is a woman's right.

Banning abortion puts women at risk by forcing them to use illegal abortionists.

It is a constitutional right of women to legally obtain an abortion.

As your Texas constituents we are asking you to oppose the below abortion related bills:

HB 1280 relates to prohibition of abortion; providing a civil penalty; creating a criminal offense.

HB 1515 relates to abortion, including abortions after detection of an unborn child's heartbeat; authorizing a private civil right of action.

HB 2313 relates to a required resource access assistance offer before an abortion is performed.

HB 2337 that relates to the regulation of drug-induced abortion procedures, providers, and facilities; providing criminal penalties.

HB 2676 relates to the creation and optional filing of a record of life for an unborn child and the use of a certificate of stillbirth; authorizing fees.

HB 3218 relates to the regulation of abortion, including information regarding perinatal palliative care and prohibiting discriminatory abortions; authorizing disciplinary action; providing a civil remedy; creating a criminal offense.

HB3760 relates to information regarding perinatal palliative care, regulation of abortion, and the availability of certain defenses to prosecution for homicide and assault offenses; providing an administrative penalty; creating criminal offenses.

Rebecca Rodgers

Self

ARLINGTON, TX

I am writing in support of HB1280. Once Roe Vs. Wade becomes overturned at a Federal level, it is important that Texas follows with banning abortion. This to. pic is near and dear to my heart. I will not go into the personal details of my life or my past, but I believe that my life would have been different if Roe Vs. Wade had never been allowed to pass. I will stand up and speak out for the unborn and their precious life. Please take the appropriate actions to overturn the effects of Roe Vs. Wade here in Texas. Thank you for your time and have a blessed day.

Heather Benedetto

Self, public School Teacher

Richardson, TX

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The government should not regulate a woman's choice to an abortion. This creates a dangerous precedent as well as the occasion to have an abortion outside of the medical establishment.

Sabrina Stolz, Ms.

Self. Beauty Consultant

Pottsboro, TX

This is a very heartfelt subject for me. I was not married and pregnant and almost 30 years ago on April 8 I had my son who means the world to me. Was life easy no. But i wouldnt change any thing.
Skip on over to 8 years ago my daughter was pregnant and went into labor early. He was born at 23 wks gestation... his lungs had only formed for 3 days. For the next few weeks months he fought for his life and we stayed on our knees.
Drs told my daughter they didnt work on 23 wk old babies she should turn his machines off and let him pass.?? We were told he would be blind, a vegetable and never know any of us.
He left the NICU after 6months. He is 8 years old.
He is not blind or a vegetable. And he knows everyone. He is reading and writing his name. Kaiden . We want all babies to live. Amen.

Sabina Madland

Self, student

Houston, TX

My name is Sabina Madland and I oppose House Bill 1280. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. I urge you to reject this legislation.

Simi PhilipPeter

Self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by women, not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try to do it themselves.

Jennifer Duffy

Self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by women, not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try to do it themselves.

Lori Foster

Self

Addison, TX

Abortion should be safe and legal not a criminal or civil offense

Meggin Kaufman

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Self/Financing

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by women, not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risk that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try to do it themselves.

Noel Madland

Self, student

Houston, TX

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Mitchell Nisbet

Self, biologist

San Antonio, TX

Hi my name is Mitch Nisbet and I oppose HB 1280 because I believe this is an unconstitutional bill and goes against what has been laid out as precedent by the Supreme Court of the United States.

Evelin Garcia

self

Kyle, TX

My name is Evelin Garcia, and I oppose House Bill 1280.

As a woman of color, I find it appalling that Gov. Greg Abbott is more concerned with passing anti-abortion bills that make it harder for me to get an abortion than keeping Texas safe and vaccinated against COVID-19. I have the right to an abortion, and any legislation that attempts to limit access or punish anyone who provides this health care service to me is a violation of my rights.

Abortion access is a form of health care, and limiting access to it is a violation of my rights!

I oppose this bill and urge the Texas Legislature to reject this legislation.

Katie Blankinship

Self

Plano, TX

My name is Katherine Elizabeth Blankinship and I adamantly oppose "HB1280." This proposed legislation puts an extremely vulnerable group of people in an even more vulnerable position. As a woman who struggles with infertility, and who is undergoing medical procedures to try to get pregnant, I still stand with any woman who makes the choice to have an abortion. Texans, Americans, and humans have a right to make decisions about their bodies and future as for themselves. It is ludicrous to penalize physicians for providing necessary services to their patients. Abortion is a necessary medical service, if for no other reason, than to prevent women from seeking help from dangerous methods as a last resort. Texas has a reputation for upholding personal freedoms and I am not willing to see that change with such an important, although controversial topic. Again, even as an infertile woman, I urge you to oppose this bill, and protect every Texan women's right to safe healthcare by means of abortion.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Karen Vaughan

Self

Robstown, TX

Life begins at conception. Please protect the lives of the unborn.

Jacob Gililand

Abolish Abortion Texas

ROCKWALL, TX

Please, consider the passing of this bill. All human life has meaning, purpose, and God-given rights from conception. Abortion heavily affects minority communities and there should be no reason why black people should remain only 13.4% of the population in the United States. These racially oppressive death mills have gone on too long in this great country. Make America the City on a Hill again and ring true the liberty of ALL its constituents. God bless you faithful servants of the public.

Kyle McClintock, Mr

Self

Pflugerville, TX

My purpose in writing you is to ask for your commitment to uphold justice on behalf of all pre-born human beings who are being killed through abortion in our state. I urge you to honor the value of human life from the moment of fertilization. Represent me well by supporting HB 3326. Completely end all human abortion. Save Texas from this violent crime.

Pre born children are alive, they feel pain, they are as human as you or I, and they are made in the image of God. We have not only the right but the duty before God to be the voice of those who's blood is crying out to God. Christ has appointed you to this position and He watches how we act.

I am urging you to protect additional lives this session. Texas needs to stop treating infants like non humans. These babies are alive in their mother's wombs until they are butchered in cold blood. This has got to stop.

It breaks my heart. You are my representatives and I'm begging you to stand up for these babies.

I urge this committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Please publicly commit to prioritizing the complete abolishment of human murder.

May God grant you courage and strength.

Ryan Webb

Self

Heath, TX

Abortion is murder and we should protect the innocent from being murdered.

Deborah Mahan

Self

Groves, TX

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We are created by God, to live and die by the hand of God. We do have free will when we choose for ourselves, but we will and we are suffering for imposing our will on the rights of our brothers and sisters. This is not a mystery, there is no gray area. We will be chastised for not protecting the lives of the babies and their mothers. I have seen life long depression and suicides, because of this evilness, this lie. To watch a woman over 65, live a desolate, lonely life full of regret, fear and hopelessness, because she was led to believe, that by killing her unborn child her life would be better off is a road no one should live. Please be merciful, look to own your hearts, think of your own mothers and your own lives, had they gone through such a terrible act. Do not allow any more innocent people to meet with death and to be permanently separated from our Creator. God is begging you be the heroic person he created you to be, to see the errors of abortion, to have mercy on human life, yours and others. May God have mercy on your souls, may God have mercy on us.

Elizabeth Davison

Self

Weatherford, TX

I am against HB1280. Roe was an unconstitutional court opinion and should be treated as such. HB1280 is an exhibition of judicial supremacy. Courts do not make law, YOU do. HB3326 is the only bill that should receive any consideration.

Elba Wilson

Me

Round Rock, TX

Do not pass this Bill. Abortion is a very personal issue and circumstances vary from woman to woman. Abortion should not be prohibited and there should not be a civil penalty and nor should a criminal offense be considered.

Frank Jokel, Mr.

Self,mechanic,repair services

Stephenville, TX

It should be outlawed,it's shamefull. We break Gods law and then expect blessings. Shame on us for the killing we do. We will all answer for our actions someday, do what is right,change the law today.

Jackie Thompson

Self/Family

Temple, TX

I/we believe that The Great State of Texas should ban abortion altogether. We respectfully request that the unborn be protected as living persons and the price of legislation, attorney hours and fees, taxpayer money, be put to the use of prosecuting the people wanting abortions as well as those performing abortions. This should include the barbaric murder of partial-birth abortions, as well as the inhumane and heartless robbing of body parts and stem cells and eyes and various organs without anesthesia being left to die an excruciating death of pain and neglect no one should ever have to suffer. Every one of God's children are innocent and precious and meant to be blessings cherished and made in God's image.

Please end abortion in all forms in Texas forever.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Amanda Bennett

Self; Project Manager

Austin, TX

I oppose HB1280 and urge the committee to vote against this bill. It's incredible cruel. Making abortion illegal doesn't stop abortions; it makes abortions more dangerous, stressful, and scary. Sending people to jail for abortions won't stop abortions; it will just contribute to mass incarceration. This bill is cruel and immoral.

Beverly Stephenson, Mrs

Self

New Braunfels, TX

Abolish abortion

Julie Ebeling

self, Teacher's Aide

BURNET, TX

I am writing to respectfully urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 - which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. According to Bible scripture, it is a known fact that God acknowledges the life of a child at the point of conception. Just as all humans who have been born into this world, the unborn child also has rights and it is imperative that we protect their God-given right to life. Please give prayerful consideration to your voice in our government, as we will all stand before our Almighty God in the Day of Judgment and give an account for our part in helping to protect human lives - including the unborn. Thank you for your consideration in this very important matter. I will be praying for you all to make the right decision.

Sally Driscoll, Ms.

Self, retired

Canyon Lake, TX

It is ludicrous to continue to kill unborn Americans while our border remains open for foreigners to freely enter our country. I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion, which has not markedly decreased the legal murder of unborn children. Instead of another attempt at regulation, please immediately hear and act on HB 1280, which would resolve the issue once and for all by abolishing abortion in Texas. Let's give our unborn Americans the same chance at life that our nation currently offers to people from the rest of the world. Thanks for your attention.

Melba Currence, Ms.

Self. Registered Nurse

Wichita Falls, TX

Abortion is the method used to commit murder. The instruments used in this procedure can be referred to as weapons of mass destruction. The unborn are the most vulnerable and innocent of living human beings. The Creator of life- GOD ALMIGHTY sees these babies as they are formed in the womb. His greatest of all creations is the human race. We are created in HIS image. He created Adam and Eve perfectly to the most minute detail. Conception begins when a life sustaining egg and sperm unit. The most marvelous of all miracles is the development of the unborn. Only things with life in them can grow. To do harm to one of these precious babies is evil. There is no justification for the murder of these innocent babies. Truth must be told to any woman seeking to murder their baby. This truth I am referring to is that this is a human being not a blob. The truth is that these babies DO FEEL AND REACT TO PAINFUL STIMULI! Abortion is based on lies and deception. In biblical times babies were offered as living sacrifices to the false gods. Many were killed on the alters by shedding of innocent blood. Some were killed by burnt offerings using fire. The taking of life of the innocent by abortion is equivalent to the deaths of these innocent babies during biblical times. One day this young mother came to see her Dr about an unwanted pregnancy. She had an 18 month old sitting in her lap . She he explained to the Dr that she could not provide for 2 children so she wanted an abortion. The Dr. said to her “ to

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keep you from having to submit to an abortion how about killing the child in your lap and then you will only have ONE! . Murder is murder. To take the life of a living unborn in the womb or the life of a living child sitting in your lap is MURDER. Those of us that can STOP this heinous crime has the opportunity to give life . One day each of us will stand before the CREATOR OF LIFE ITSELF. We will be required to give an account to HIM of how we responded to the call to STOP MURDERING THE MOST INNOCENT .- OUR BABIES before birth

Ted Smith

Self

Magnolia, TX

Thank you

Brian Rogers

self, computer programmer

Farmers Branch, TX

I oppose HB 1280 because abortion should be a woman's personal decision, not the government's. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try do it themselves.

Kay Thompson

Republican party

Blanket, TX

I support prohibition of abortion in Texas

Leslie Eames Pierce

Self, educator

Richardson, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by the pregnant woman , not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try do it themselves. Placing restrictions on a group of people is oppressive. Denying an entire sex of people the freedom to dictate decisions of their own body is sexist. Thank you

Connie Mitchell

self

South Padre Island, TX

Please reject the continued regulation of abortion and immediately hear HB 3326 to completely abolish abortion in Texas. This dark legal murder of the unborn should no longer be tax payer funded no allowed to exist in the great state of Texas. "Following the science" our state should be protecting the innocent and cease allowing the common killing through abortion. As an educated and civilized people, this barbaric activity can no longer be condoned and allowed to continue. Please reject this continued regulation of abortion and immediately hear HB 3326 to completely abolish abortion in our great and wonderful Texas!

Daniela Camacho, Ms

Un 3326

LAREDO, TX

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I'm against abortion

Lisa Kamerer, Mrs.

Self

Woodlands, TX

I do not support a Bill that penalizes a woman, especially if she's been coerced. She should not have to be penalize for someone else's decision.

Guy McCord

Self

Irving, TX

Abortion is murder call it what it us

Cyral Miller, Mrs

Self

Austin, TX

Texans deserve their legal right to full reproductive health care. Nobody should face fear, stigma, or unnecessary barriers when seeking out reproductive healthcare, including abortion care.

Zara Zamora, Ms.

Self

Houston, TX

My name is Zara Zamora and I oppose House Bill HB-1515, HB 1280, Hb 2337/Sb 394, HB 2313/ SB 802, HB 3218/SB 1173, and HV 3760/ SB 1647.

I oppose this bill because no person should have to raise a child they can't care for, but all children require parents. In the adoption system there are tons of kids who will never have a family, statistically it is impossible. Many of these bills are unsafe for the child and parent, as well as unconstitutional. I care about abortion access because I actually care about the kids in our country, forcing someone to give birth isn't going to protect them. Please reject these bills, all kids deserve parents if you enforce this bill they won't have anybody.

Briana Martinez

Self, student

Alamo, TX

My name is Briana Martinez and I oppose House Bill 1280.

This bill offers almost no exceptions to abortion and can take a toll on Texan families. People should have the right to decide whether or not they will carry their pregnancy to full term, as it will affect their well being. Denying them this right will result in more bad than good. Deny HB 1280.

Doc Greene

RightSideOfTheMic

Katy, TX

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It is long past time to quit killing baby Texans. Life begins at conception and can begin at no other time. Even in cases of Rape and Incest, both being very low probability, it is not the Baby's fault. The Baby doesn't get a vote. Its Ludicrous to continue this barbarity. Of course IF Republicans were REALLY prolife this would have ended 20 years ago. I see you are, and so does Yeshua the Mighty GOD in CHRIST

Charlotte Fiehn

Self

Cypress, TX

I oppose HB 1280 on the grounds that it is a gross violation of a woman's reproductive rights, human rights, and constitutional rights.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Seeking to limit women's access to abortion is a fundamental violation of women's rights as individuals and as citizens.

Prioritizing a fetus over the life of an adult female is nothing more than the most virulent form of sexism. I urge them to reject this legislation.

Blair Wallace, Policy & Advocacy Strategist

ACLU of Texas

Houston, TX

Written Testimony Against House Bill 1280 by:

Blair Wallace

Policy & Advocacy Strategist

American Civil Liberties Union of Texas

Dear Chairwoman and Members of the Public Health Committee:

HB 1280 seeks to ban abortion outright as soon as soon as either *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), as modified by *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833 (1992) is overruled or an amendment to the United States Constitution is adopted that allows states to ban abortion. The bill also institutes a severe civil penalty of not less \$100,000 and makes it a felony in the second degree to perform an abortion and a felony in the first degree if the abortion is successful. The bill is so extreme that it makes no exception for rape or incest, which makes this law out of step with the over 80% of Texans that believe there should be at least some exceptions to a prohibition on abortion.

If this ban was allowed to take effect, it would endanger a patient's health by interfering with a doctor's ability to treat a pregnant patient who is suffering a medical condition, even if it is not related to her pregnancy. The bill could prevent any doctor in Texas from providing necessary medical care to a pregnant person if that care might endanger an ongoing pregnancy. A patient experiencing a miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy may need emergency medical treatment to prevent serious damage to her health or even to save her life. This legislation would effectively tie doctors' hands rather than allowing them to treat their patient without fear of prosecution. In Ireland, for example, which up until recently banned all abortion, Dr. Savita Hapannavar experienced a tragic miscarriage at 17 weeks and even when it was clear that the pregnancy was lost, she was denied a necessary abortion for days; as a direct consequence, she developed sepsis and died. Doctors were unable to provide basic care for her because of their interpretation of Ireland's laws. If Texas bans abortion as a result of this bill, the same thing can and will happen here to Texas women.

These types of situations do not only happen abroad. There have been a number of examples of women coming forward after being turned away from a Catholic hospital that have similar rules as the changes in the law proposed by HB 1280. One such patient was Tamesha Means. In November of 2013, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit against the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops ("USCCB") on behalf of Tamesha Means, a pregnant woman who miscarried and was denied appropriate medical treatment because the only hospital in her county, a Catholic hospital, is required to follow religious Directives set and written by the USCCB.

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18 weeks pregnant, Ms. Means was rushed to Mercy Health Partners when her water broke. Based on the Directives, which prohibit a pre-viability pregnancy termination, she was sent home—twice. Both times she was sent home, she was in excruciating pain, there was no chance her pregnancy would sur

Diane Sulpizio

self

Southwest Houston, TX

The fact that abortion goes against the design of our body in a most fundamental way should be an indication that it's wrong, morally and ethically. The uterus is designed to be a safe, nurturing space for human life. Sex during ovulation is intended to result in parenthood. Not to mention that NO WHERE in the Constitution is the "right" to kill our own flesh and blood. Stop the barbarity of abortion. Stop using the slaughter of innocent unborn human life as a means of solving societal ills.

ROBERT PIVERAL

Self

FORT WORTH, TX

Any abortions except from any rape by a stranger or other family member is just killing a person ,how can anyone kill a fetus after God chose that woman to carry his creation .?

Maggie Wright

Self. Retired

Burleson, TX

We want abolition now to stop the murder of more than 155 babies a day.
Abortion is our modern day Holocaust!

Sandra Barnes

Citizen of Texas

Quinlan, TX

It is murder if you take a life,if you believe the Bible and in God then stop abortion.

Edward Marricle

Self- Caregiver(non-clinical)

Lubbock, TX

The taking of a life in any way other than self-defense or by judicial circumstances should not be legal or acceptable. God tells us to choose life. Thank you and God bless

Ashley Werner

Self

Houson, TX

HB 1280 would penalize a woman with criminal charges for making a decision regarding her own body. I am against HB1280 and any other bill which allows others to make criminal charges against someone who chooses to make a decision regarding their own body. This would be similar to incriminating those who need their gallbladder removed. Vote no on HB1280.

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Maria Work
Cloverleaf Baptist Church
Houston, TX

I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Please consider the lives of the unborn.

Karen Graff
independant citizen
Dalhart, TX

If it changes and grows, it's a life. If it grows in a human, it's a human life. Purposely ending innocent human life is murder. Murder is against the law. Abortion is purposely ending innocent human life, which is murder, and murder is against the law. Abortion should be against the law.

Beverly Gavenda, Ms
Self-Retired RN
Austin, TX

I am vehemently opposed to HB 1280 and ashamed that any one would consider this heartless measure against a Texan and her medical provider. This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. I oppose HB 1280 and I ask you to vote against it.

Deborah Lucas, Mrs.
self
College Station, TX

This bill needs to become law. With detection of an unborn child's heartbeat, a life has begun. This life was created by God and to stop that heartbeat is murder. Please make this bill into law to stop abortion.

Connie Wildcat
Self/Health Science Service Coordinator
Pampa, TX

Please pass this bill to fight for the right to life, and show that upon conception, an abortion would have the same punishment by law for the taking of human life.

Amu Melhorn
Self
Northlake, TX

Please only hear bill number 3326. Abortion needs to be abolished once and for all. Thank you

Michael Ruppert, Mr.
Self

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Houston, TX

It's the sanctity of life.

Joseph Barker

Self

Dallas, TX

The government should not be involved in what is a difficult personal decision.

Charlotte Blaine

Self

Frisco, TX

I am in favor of this bill to protect the rights of the unborn.

Jocelyn Rigel

self

Garland, TX

My name is Jocelyn Rigel and I oppose House Bill 1280.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and the child living in poverty...and causes Texas taxpayers to subsidize the ongoing living costs. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves, their families and to do so without government or taxpayer intervention. Please oppose HB 1280.

Adam Rigel

Self

Garland, TX

My name is Adam Rigel and I oppose House Bill 1280.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and the child living in poverty...and causes Texas taxpayers to subsidize the ongoing living costs. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves, their families and to do so without government or taxpayer intervention. Please oppose HB 1280.

Shawna Pavlides, Mrs

Self

Denton, TX

Please outlaw abortion at any stage and for any reason. Murder should be illegal. Every day babies are burned to death chemically and torn to bits surgically. Please, please outlaw murder. There is Never an acceptable time or reason to murder a baby. When is it okay to kill a baby? When? Never.

Jessica Sutton

self

Waxahachie, TX

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Its is reprehensible that you elected officials go around pandering to this that or the other, but do not bother to actually apply yourselves to truth. You expect the rest of us to be good and upright citizens, but continue to vote or pass "laws" that do not actually accomplish the goal of We The People. It is disgusting and it is not just time for it to stop, understand that we the citizens of Texas are demanding that abortion be abolished. To pander to the wishes of the people with this bill or that bill that will "make it better" (gag) when you know full well it does not actually accomplish the intended goal -- well there is a phrase for that -- it is called lack of integrity. How do you reconcile inside yourself knowing you are being deceitful? Do you benefit in some way off of the murder of unborn children? Sometimes the simple answer is the correct answer. The truth will come out no matter what. It always does. If you do not benefit in some way off of the murder of unborn children, then why not stop the murder of Texas citizens? Politician's love to attempt to play the middle with this "well politics can not be all this way or all that way". That is a lie there are absolutes, like hmmm murder is and always will be murder. Period there is no "middle" on this issue. Now I recognize you can simply dismiss my comments as if swatting at a gnat, that does not make what I have said any less true. You either have integrity or you do not, there is no "try". I would also have you know I do not write this with any inflection so it should not be read as such. I am simply stating truth. Dismiss these other lame duck bills and hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Stand up! Have courage! It is the job you asked for, now do it! Abolish abortion in the state of Texas, be apart of history and begin the restoration of our great state!

Barbara Hollyfield

Myself and Christ Jesus

Silsbee, TX

Distinguished legislators,

While all legislation intended to slow or discourage abortion may be commendable, what we need is to STOP abortion. We are killing babies as a form of birth control!! We are detestable and deplorable before God. He cannot bless America again as long as we endorse, condone, and legalize murder of the unborn. Please come together and immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Thank you, Barbara Hollyfield

Audrey Fain

Self, caretaker

Carlsbad, TX

After serious contemplation the past several years over the 60,000,000+ abortions that have legally occurred in the US and the current 55,000 in our great state of Texas that occur year after year, I have become appalled, ashamed, and horrified at the lack of justice for these innocent human lives and the failures of pro-life bills that do not completely outlaw all abortions. That being said, I plead with you to please hear HB 3326.

Biblically speaking and scientifically speaking, there is no denying that--begging at conception--every embryo is in fact a living human being. I understand the pressure that is put on male politicians to stay out of "women's issues." But this is uncalled for given two reasons (among others): "There is no life-threatening condition that would ever necessitate the direct, intentional, active killing of a baby in the womb." In fact, "Doctors can induce delivery or perform a C-section to save a woman's life in a life-threatening or emergency situation without dismembering, crushing, burning, or chemically inducing cardiac arrest in a baby. In some induced deliveries or C-sections, babies will not survive, but that is wholly different from intentionally" (<https://illinoisfamily.org/life>).

Also, criminology professor Mike Adams put it plainly when he quoted scientific literature on the subject: "...we actually go to the science of embryology to decide when life begins. Let me quote from some embryology textbooks. Moore and Persaud in their embryology textbook say, 'A zygote is the beginning of a new human being. Human development begins at fertilization'" (<https://www.dailywire.com/news/44133/watch-professor-perfectly-articulates-moral-frank-camp>). Also, in cases of rape and incest, it makes no sense to punish the child for the crimes of the father. Adoption is always an option.

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Considering all of these things, it seems incumbent upon us to do whatever it takes to defend these innocent lives. I speak for many Texans when I say, there is never an occasion for abortion. Period. If we fail as a state to defend ALL babies in the womb, I believe Texas, in which I have lived my whole life and which I dearly love, will shamefully cease to be the greatest state in the greatest country in the world and will be forced to face the distinct and sobering judgment of the Almighty Creator of life just as all the immoral nations throughout history have before us.

Thank you for your time and your prayerful consideration.

Sincerely,
Audrey Fain

Barbara Sargent
Self Retired
El Paso, TX

HB 1280: Trigger ban

This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Teresa Mihaylov
Self
Carrollton, TX

I want to urge the committee to stop simply regulating abortion in Texas but abolishing abortion in Texas and immediately hear HB 3326.

All life is precious including the lives of babies just waiting to be born. It's our duty as a civil society to protect these innocent babies from death. This travesty must end for good, not simply be regulated.

Please stand up for the right to life for these precious babies who deserve to live. Let Texas be a sanctuary for LIFE!

Wendy Torres
Pro Life
San Antonio, TX

The damage done not only to the baby but also the mother is devastated. Please stop this practice.

Lisa Barry
A citizen of the state of Texas.
Lubbock, TX

This is an opportunity for Texas to stand up for life and to lead the way in abolishing the most tragic, horrific crime against humanity. I implore the men and women who represent this great state to do the right and moral thing by supporting HB 3326 and by so doing to make Texas a safe haven for the lives of mothers and their babies. Now is the time for good people to end abortion once and for all.

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Linda Watkins

Myself

Amarillo, TX

As someone who was not supposed to be able to have a child but did have a son by a miracle I believe EVERY child created is done so by God. Therefore no human has the right to treat them as an inconvenience. Stop abortions in Texas now.

Linda Jansen

Self, Retired Admin. Assistant, Volunteer Secretary for the Texas City Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association

Texas City, TX

Please reject the regulation of abortion and immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. During Old Testament times, God made it known that He hates child sacrifice. In fact, He commanded that those who participate in it be put to death! Today many Christians who accept or take part in the practice of abortion have not made a conscious decision to sin and bring dishonor to God by condoning idolatrous values. Regardless of the motive, however, these Christians are unacceptably serving God. Indeed God hates the detestable sin of abortion. For not only is abortion a sin against God and His innocent creation but it is a sin against the family and community as well. Scripture throughout teaches that children are a blessing from the Lord and that loving nurture is the godly response of parents toward their offspring. Abortion is the rejection of the God-given role to parent His creation. For an unmarried woman unable to cope with the doubly difficult role of single parenting, the child may be God's gift through her to a barren couple within the community. Whether God's blessing is received and lovingly nurtured by the biologic parents or given to adoptive parents, the birth of a child is a blessing to the family and community. We must not put God to the test. His judgment will surely come to those who disobey Him.

Larry Tyler

Self, Retired Army Chaplain

Longview, TX

Abortion is a violation of the most fundamental right--the right to life and government is instituted by God to protect the rights of the vulnerable and innocent!

Melanie Wesley, Ms.

Self. Retired medical.

Keller, TX

Murdering the unborn is wrong. They need to have a voice for protection and life.

Michael Colley

I am representing myself, on behalf of Abolish Abortion Texas

Hereford, TX

I have selected HB 1280, but desire the Committee to ignore this one, and instead immediately move to hear HB 3326, and read thoroughly what is in this one.

Abortion in Texas, is murder, regardless of how you look at it. Remember the Ten Commandments, and the one that says, "Thou Shall Not Kill"? God didn't have it in there to take up space on the stone tablet, he gave to Moses, up on the mountain. And it wasn't a suggestion!

You have outlawed murder, of children and adults, in our Great State of Texas; now do the right thing, and outlaw the murders of our unborn babies, in our Great State.

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I was suppose to be an aborted baby, but my mom (God Rest Her Soul) refused to allow it to happen, nearly 64 years ago. My Aunt, tried to talk mom into having an abortion, like she had done several times before my birth, and a few times after. I will always consider her a baby killer. Aunt Betty passed away in 2000, and I'm sure has gone to Hell, for her dastardly deeds. Is that what we want for some of our citizens of Texas? No, absolutely not! We don't need, nor do we want to continue to be known, for the countless murders of our most innocent lives in Texas!

It is pretty obvious, Chairwoman Klick must want it though. She refused to allow it to go before the committee she chairs, and opted for less qualified bills instead. Heartbeat bills have been tried, and failed in other states. We don't need to repeat the same failures, and waste precious time, when HB 3326, has what is needed, and wanted.

We, as citizens of the Great and Sovereign State of Texas, want a law, other states can look at, and read, and want to adapt in their states, as well as a law, the United States Congress can put into place all across our great nation, and put an end to Roe vs. Wade, once and for all.

Remember, if White Lives Matter, Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter, All Lives Matter, and that includes "Unborn Lives Matter"!

Julius Browder

I am a christian and am against murder

Mont Belvieu, TX

HB1280 I am pro life and against any type of abortion

Greg Sells

self

Austin, TX

I object to HB 1280, which is too extreme in making abortion illegal. There will always be women who will seek abortion for whatever reason, and they cannot be stigmatized by power-hungry politicians wishing to push their ideology on the population at large.

Paul Stephens

Self

Kilgore, TX

Some people (politicians) say that the things they do and bills they sponsor or pass are for the children, I guess that means only for the ones that weren't aborted not the ones who's lives and futures were ripped away from them!

Mireya Trevino

self, program specialist

Austin, TX

My name is Mireya and I oppose house bill 1280. This extreme bill makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis. This piece of legislation shows no compassion for families going through a heart-breaking situation. Denying access to abortion care would further traumatize these families, especially the person being forced to carry a non-viable pregnancy to term. It's cruel, it compounds existing economic hardships, and significantly increases the odds of the patient living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. I urge you to respect the personal health decisions of Texans; please reject this HB1280. Thank you.

Gelinda Schmidt

Self

Austin, TX

A woman has the right to choose— to choose birth control, to choose to abstain from sex, to choose not to drink or use drugs that would inhibit in the moment decisions. She has a lot of choices. In the case of rape, there is the right to choose adoption. These choices are all mentally and physically healthier for the mother to be, and saves the unborn. No human being has the right to kill another human being. The only abortion God allows is a spontaneous abortion, performed by nature. Please make abortion illegal and a crime, a crime that reaps the same consequences as murder. Thank you, Gelinda Schmidt

Esther Cowperthwait, Mrs

Self

Garland, TX

My name is Esther and I oppose abortion on the fact that an unborn baby is a US Citizen and should be protected by all constitutional laws and amendments. If LGB,etc, are protected against horrible death torture as well as illegal aliens who are not US citizens are protected against horrible death torture, then it should be illegal to have abortions because of the way you protect even animals more than a vulnerable and voiceless US citizen in the womb. Please stop abortion and stand and protect the silent weak ones. Thank you.

Jennifer Jobe

Self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by women, not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try do it themselves

Denise Gordon

Self; Clinical Social Worker

Round Rock, TX

Rep Capriglione: With 3 daughters, you should be ashamed for filing this Bill! Do you really believe you can regulate their bodies, or the bodies of every woman in TX by passing legislation against anyone who provides an abortion? If one of your daughters were to become pregnant accidentally, would you be looking for a physician or nurse practitioner to perform an abortion, or would you send her away, to put the baby up for adoption.

You might believe you would keep the baby, but not every woman in TX is able to afford an unwanted pregnancy. Becoming pregnant when a teenager, a college student, a woman who is jobless or homeless, or who already has more children than she can care for, are all among the reasons women see abortions. Rather than punishing those who try to help women, how about sponsoring legislation to expand Medicaid assistance for women and make birth control more accessible in TX.

Rep Capriglione: you only have 3 children, please explain what method of birth control you and your wife practice to limit your family to only 3? Personal Question. absolutely. Publicly explain this in the Legislature to get just a taste of how women feel when men, especially self-righteous men, try to control their bodies and their right to end an unwanted pregnancy!

Withdraw this Bill! Defeat it! TX is Better than this Bill!

Marcos Marcos Apodaca

Self

Burnet, TX

This Bill does not protect ALL humans who are in the womb. It does not remove the death of the human because the Bill only

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regulates abortion.

I urge this committee to reject this and any Bill that regulates abortion instead of abolishes it. It is your sworn duty to protect the citizens of Texas and even more so all humans and their dignity. To pass a Bill that only saves some lives is to discriminate.

You must stand for all life and remove an unjust law that allows for the murder of 55,000 babies per year in the state of Texas alone.

Hold a hearing for HB 3326, the only true bill of abolition that provides equal protection to all unborn children.

Ricky Nelson

Self

Sunnyvale, TX

Stop Abortion!!!!!!

Laura Irwin, Mrs

Self

Tomball, TX

Please stop abortion, it's murder. And murder is against the law.

Andrew Samford

Self

Kerrville, TX

Abortion needs to be prohibited as it is homicide

Joan Huntley

Self - Retired

Austin, TX

It is unconscionable that abortion is legal in Texas, and I would urge you to vote against any legislation that in any way condones this practice. This practice has decimated our future population and left women emotionally scarred for life -- something they're not told about before considering the procedure.

Yerimy Cubias

Self

East Bernard, TX

I don't agree with abortion. I believe if you don't want to have babies then use something to stop from getting pregnant. There are many options out there before a life can be created if you don't want to get pregnant then do your part. Abortion is killing someone who doesn't have a voice and didn't ask to come to this world but someone made them and the same people are killing them.

Karen Eudy

Self

Royse City, TX

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The Republican Party of Texas Legislative priority is: ABOLITION OF ABORTION-
Abolish abortion by ensuring the right to life and equal protection of the laws to ALL preborn children from the moment of
FERTILIZATION.

Please represent the priorities of the people you are elected to represent, as well as the preborn baby Texans that these "pro-life"
bills do not protect or represent.

I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely
and immediately abolish abortion in Texas.

Megan Brannen

ACLU/AVOW/Sunrise/AllyTees/ConcernedCitizensEverywhere

Austin, TX

My name is Megan Brannen and I STRONGLY OPPOSE House Bill 1280.

I am currently trying to get pregnant with my husband, but one fear I have is that I will conceive an ectopic pregnancy (a
fertilized egg outside of the womb) and I MIGHT DIE if I'm forced to carry that fertilized egg to full term. Additionally, in
college I was raped by an ex boyfriend who thought he had rights to my body while I was sleeping -- something far too many
young girls in this state go through -- and if I had become pregnant, I would not have been able to care for that child financially or
emotionally, and may have resented the child as well; I do not wish this upon anyone in our great state.

Further still, this bill would put a heavy burden on the Texas budget due to frivolous and harassing lawsuits against all those
involved in something the government has no business spending my tax dollars on, and would seek to punish women unjustly. I
want a baby more than anything, but if I will die having the child, don't I deserve the right to life? This is a challenging decision
for my family as well -- if we should be blessed with a baby that is healthy I will be happy to carry it to term and have it in a
hospital where I can find adequate care, but forcing women to carry out pregnancies that are harmful to their baby or to
themselves is suicide, and goes against my Christian faith which states suicide is wrong.

The reason this cause is so near and dear to me is that I am a woman, who wants equitable access to the support of the medical
community, and want the same for my fellow Texans. I do not support government overreach, and believe we should be putting
our time/energy/effort/tax dollars into supporting communities, not burdening them or tearing them apart as this bill would most
assuredly do.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to
term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty
or hardship -- and the foster/adoption systems do not adequately prepare a child for a happy and robust life in many cases. Each
Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

I strongly urge you to REJECT this legislation.

Maura Wingard, Mrs.

self; retired Air Force Officer

Copper Canyon, TX

Hear HB 3326 instead of any of the above. Abolish abortion in Texas, period.

Mark Hunt

My self

Pflugerville, TX

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4) "Reasonable medical judgment" means a medical

judgment made by a reasonably prudent physician, knowledgeable about a case and the treatment possibilities for the medical conditions involved.

This wording needs to be substantially strengthened. Would or could a physician who fervently believes that a woman has the ultimate deciding right to continue or discontinue the initial developing human life (fetus) within her body claim that he is a reasonably prudent physician and the life must be aborted because there is a risk of a potential life threatening condition later on to the mother? I could easily argue that there is a risk that I will be killed or physically injured the next time I get in my car and drive down the street to a restaurant or the grocery store!

It amazes me how I see ads pleading to save pets from inhumane treatment, starvation and abuse, showing pictures of them quivering/starving, BUT NO ONE Petitions or pleads on air to save a human being from being ripped out of its mother's womb, often at the demands of its own mother!

The global rate of unintended pregnancy was estimated at 44% of all pregnancies between 2010 and 2014 per Wikipedia. I believe that rather than murdering an innocent life, one that had no say in his or her becoming a living human being, monumental efforts should be directed toward:

- 1) Providing medical care and adoption procedures and funding assistance to preserve that life and give him or her a new loving home through adoption.
- 2) Much better education and state pregnancy prevention methods that prevents fertilization but NEVER destroys a fertilized embryo.
- 3) Heightened research in developing more effective contraceptives (whether longer lasting or with almost immediate effectiveness once taken just prior to sex). Obviously condoms are often not worn, birth control pills are not properly taken, unprotected sexual intercourse is a frequent practice with abortion being the current solution to an unwanted pregnancy. Murder of a developing human being is unacceptable, a fetus, a baby in its mother's womb must be stopped. I believe that the above efforts could substantially reduce unintended pregnancies which I believe is crucial to solving this problem for both the mother and her child.

Would you also please bring HB 3326 to the floor for the sake of these unborn children, do they not deserve to be protected, does their life not matter, do we, God Help Us, have that right to destroy their life? Will someone stand up and raise their voice for those who have no voice and never will as it currently stands.

Alice Gaskin

Self

Houston, TX

Dear members of government,

I respectfully ask you to take a moment and consider the unborn child and give it a chance to live. None us can take the place of God who is gives life I urge you to be the kind of leader that will make a difference in your lifetime vote for life.

Melody Haber

Self housewife

HOUSTON, TX

Please support and pass these measures to finally end abortion on Texas. Abortion is an issue and a reality that tears families apart, in and outside the womb. I want my government to stand for life and stop the hurting in families that isn't always easy to see in a statistical report.

Sabrina Nicholson, Mrs.

Disabled/Self

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Cleveland, TX

Once a baby is conceived it is a human growing inside its mother's womb. It depends on its mother's nutrition by a umbilical cord and while inside the womb babies develop their features such as fingernails toenails toes fingers eyes and develop a heartbeat. When in a heartbeat is discovered that means it's a little human being growing inside the womb of its mother. I believe that abortion at any stage is murder and that the mother and everyone that participates in the abortion process, should be charged with murder.

Frank Netscher

Self

AUSTIN, TX

Vote NO on anti-abortion House Bills 1280, 1515, 2337, 2313, 3218, 3760. Abortion is health care and is legally protected by the U.S. Constitution. We don't need more unnecessary restrictions, and the majority of Texans don't support them.

Kerry Draper

Myself and my family.

Quinlan, TX

It's time for Texas to stop wasting time and money on unproductive and quite frankly useless regulations on abortion. What we need is for our lawmakers to show some backbone, and for once take the lead in the nation in the fight for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for ALL citizens especially those who can't fight for themselves, the unborn! Please consider taking up and passing HB3326 and abolish abortion in Texas. Make Texas a sanctuary state for the unborn.

Sincerely

Kerry Draper

Marc Cote, Mr.

Self / Safety & Business Management

Granbury, TX

As long as there are laws tying a pre-born child as murder victim in my homicide case then abortion must be deemed a homicide as well. This double standard must not exist. Criminal charges must be made to anyone who performs an abortion and to the mother who authorizes the abortion.

Ann Sandoval

Self, student

Mesquite, TX

My name is Ann Sandoval and I oppose House Bill 1280. When I was still in the womb of my mother, she was informed that both of us wouldn't make it. They suggested she get an abortion, luckily we both made it out with our lives. But in result, I get sick very easily and was born prematurely. I'm sure there are others that won't be so lucky. If someone's life is at risk, they should have the choice to be able to live. If HB 1280 were to pass, there wouldn't be any exception to allowing abortion, even if there was a lethal diagnosis. Pregnancy can cause life changing side effects. Some women can't control their bladder anymore, and others get diseases such as cardiovascular diseases. Or cardiomyopathy, which is a disease that makes it harder for your heart muscle to send blood to the rest of your body. Pregnancy is a life changing event. Instead of trying to stop abortion we should try to fix out adoption services. There are still thousands of children in adoption centers, without homes being treated horribly. America is supposed to be the land of the free, but HB 1280 will stop our freedom of choice. Please, I urge you not to pass this bill.

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Alyssa Garcia

Self

Katy, TX

I oppose the HB 1280 bill for invasion on patient privacy. Like any other surgery they come with risks, and a chance of going wrong. However, if it's in the patients best interest and upon their agreement then they should be allowed abortions like any other procedure. When forced to give birth their is always consequences on both sides which could lead to resentment of both parties in the future. Poverty level could possibly go up. Women mortality may go up as well form doing dangerous self abortions. In the end it's none of the states or doctors business what a women decides for her body, and what she believes is right. A women can get a surgery on tightening her vagina without permission, but is forced to have something come out because someone decided it was wrong. Therefore, this isn't a matter of what's best for the patient but what others classify as wrong based on religion that the patient may not even practice.

Barbara Royal, Mrs

Self

Weatherford, TX

I support prohibition of abortion.

Stephen Smith

Self retired

San Antonio, TX

Dear Representative Capriglione,

This nation has regulated abortion for decades. Meanwhile, tens of millions of future citizens have been executed without a trial or any other semblance due process of law through the unconstitutional process of abortion.

It is past time to outlaw these unlawful killings of the next generation and stop tinkering with the apparatus of death.

Thank you

ANDREAS PAVLIDES

self

Denton, TX

Stop murder in Texas now! Get rid of this evil which has been haunting us for so long in this state. Babies are being torn apart ever day and are waiting for someone to help them. Make history. End this evil practice now! We citizens are getting very angry that Texas has not stopped murder by now. We are going to be very very angry if you do not get rid of it completely. There are no more excuses. The time has come. Abolish any type of abortion in Texas. Get it done. We are watching you. We will not give up. Do not fail us. End Abortion. End Murder. I beg you. Thank you.

KATE HARSLEM

SELF

AUSTIN, TX

SO NOW YOU WANT TO PROHIBIT ABORTION? GO AHEAD OVERTURN ROE VS WADE. YOU THINK WE CARE IF YOU DO THAT? I DARE YOU. WE WILL NEVER BACK DOWN. WE WILL NEVER STOP FIGHTING FOR WHAT IS

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RIGHT. ACCESS TO OUR BODIES. YOU MEN ARE JUST JEALOUS THAT YOU CAN'T REPRODUCE. GO AHEAD, ADMIT IT. YOU WOMEN WHO ARE ANTI ABORTION, I DON'T KNOW WHO BRAINWASHED YOU BUT YOUR UTERUS IS YOUR CHOICE. FORCING A WOMAN TO CARRY TO TERM IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. EVERYONE DESERVES A CHOICE TO THEIR BODIES. DON'T FORCE WOMEN TO GIVE BIRTH. THIS IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL. MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE HERE.

Cameron Marsh

Self

Austin, TX

Hi, my name is Cameron Marsh and I'm writing in opposition to HB 1280. This bill is an unconstitutional, near total ban on abortion that creates a civil cause of action that allows anyone, regardless of whether or not they were connected to the abortion patient, to sue an abortion provider and anyone who helped a person get an abortion for a perceived violation of any abortion restriction.

Bill Cummings

Retired

Buffalo, TX

Make adoptions easier and less expensive.

Sharon Mineo

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill.

Michelle Stoneking, Mrs.

self admin

McKinney, TX

I believe all human life is sacred from conception on. I want to speak for the unborn who are not able to speak in the womb. God created life and He is the only One to take life. No human has the right to take another human's life, especially those who are not able to fight back. Every life is a gift from God and has the right to be born and live. I believe it is a criminal offense to take another person's life. The Bible says "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place"
??Psalms? ?139:13-16? ?NIV??

Lynn Shipferling

Self

Houston, TX

Our children are the nation's greatest resource. Please protect our future doctors, scientists, politicians and all of our preborn US citizens.

Joan Dodson

Self

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Weatherford, TX

Please reject continued regulation of abortion and immediately hear HB3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Karen Milewski

Self

Lindale, TX

Vote no

Marlene Ollervidez

Self interior designer

Baytown, TX

What kind of society allows women to kill their unborn children at the expense of sexual pleasure? It is the most selfish act a mother can do to willingly kill her unborn child for any reason. A "fetus" as "people" like to describe it, is a human being. Any woman who has children knows the value and how precious a human being is born and unborn. The word of God states that we were ever formed in the womb. Women who don't want children shouldn't be engaging in fornication. Where has our civility gone? If we don't create boundaries somewhere then there won't be any at all and without order there is chaos. Killing an innocent in any form is evil and it is murder. How detached can a woman be to want to murder her own child. With all of the forms of birth control readily available today killing a "fetus" more than one day old should be considered murder. Other states can allow abortion up to full term birth, so then why can we not prohibit abortion? Why can we not provide civil penalties? Why can't it be considered a criminal offense? Why can't we have our rights? Since when did our rights that coincide with morality, justice, and order become so evil? What is blatantly evil is a woman who enacts in fornication, willfully does not take per caution by exercising her rights in using birth control, and then minimizes the life of her child, so that she murders her innocent unborn human being. It is careless, selfish, and could have been completely avoided. We cannot continue on this path of murdering innocent babies; we have to prohibit it. It is not just life that is at stake here, it is our rights, our voices being heard, it is our morality. When I make a mistake I had to deal with the consequences. So then what are we teaching the next generation if we do not prohibit abortion today? We are teaching them to not value human life. We are teaching them that human life has no value. How precious is a baby when it is born? Think about that.

Maureen Callahan, Home Healthcare RN

Self

Houston, TX

Please save our children.

Kelly Le

Self, Student

Houston, TX

My name is Kelly Le and I oppose House Bill 1280 because it does nothing to improve the quality of life and healthcare for Texans; on the contrary, it will only serve to kill them and lead to a lower quality of life for patients, their children, and their families.

This bill essentially bans abortion outright because it hardly allows for any exceptions to be made. It also makes it a criminal offense for physicians to provide abortion care in situations other than the few exceptions described in the bill. HB 1280 is bad news for women, families, and doctors in Texas because it will lead to the death of more women. Medical research from around the world has made it clear that banning abortions never actually stops them from happening; it just causes more women to suffer abortion-related injuries and death due to the unavailability of safe and legal abortion care. The CDC reports that about 700

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women already die from preventable pregnancy-related complications each year in the United States. Shall we allow that number to grow with the passage of HB 1280? If the United States were to overturn Roe v. Wade and thereby allow HB 1280 to come into effect should it be passed, we would return to a status quo previously left behind in the 20th century. Instead of championing evidence-based and comprehensive women's healthcare, we would join the ranks of countries with similar restrictive abortion laws where abortion rates and maternal mortality tend to be highest.

Furthermore, if a woman unwillingly carries her pregnancy to term like HB 1280 would force her to, the qualities of life for her and her unwanted child would be diminished. The consequences of banning abortion extend long beyond pregnancy and childbirth. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Texans deserve the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families when it relates to such personal issues like pregnancy or abortion, and so the state should not get to dictate individuals' access to reproductive and abortion healthcare.

If your goal as legislators is to reduce abortion rates and support the livelihood of Texans, HB 1280 will not achieve it. Texans who truly believe in personal liberty should support a future for healthcare where every Texan can safely and legally access necessary medical services for their specific, personal needs. This bill will force women to become unwilling mothers and cause others who will still seek abortions to suffer potential injury and death. I stand in support of my sisters, neighbors, friends, and women all across Texas because I envision a Texas where everyone is allowed access to the full range of reproductive healthcare services. I urge Texas legislators to do the same and reject HB 1280.

Barry Sivley, Mr

Self

Garlsnd, TX

I believe that life begins at conception and is a baby, not merely a fetus and should be afforded protection under the law.

Gladys Flournoy, Mrs

Christians for life

San Antonio, TX

It is time to stop taking innocent lives because they are an inconvenience. Sterilization or birth control are the answer, Not killing an infant because you're not prepared for an infant Please consider voting for life

Larry Hauptrief

Self

Johnson City, TX

I have a granddaughter who was an abortion candidate. Now she has two children of her own.

Biblically abortion is murder. Please do your part to stop abortions in Texas!

Jeffrey Mitchell

Self and currently unemployed

Bulverde, TX

Abortion should be illegal as it is breaking one of God's 10 Commandments: "Thou Shalt Not Kill!"

Also, based on the last 50 years or so, I would not be here making this comment if Roe V Wade was in 1963 and not 1973, because I was adopted on the day I was born via Catholic Charities in Kansas City. My birth mother became pregnant due to a date rape. She did not break a law at the time nor did she commit a mortal sin by aborting me and breaking the "Thou Shalt Not

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Kill" Commandment. I was blessed to not be aborted and killed before being born.

Brenda Frank, Retired teacher

Self

Tomball, TX

I am FOR banning abortion whenever the supreme courts overrules Roe v Wade. Please consider my opinion when voting and vote for this bill.

Sincerely,

Brenda Frank

12220 Zion Rd Tomball Tx 77375

Zac Hammer

Self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill because abortion should be a personal decision by women, not the government. Making abortion illegal increases the risks that women will have abortions not performed by medical professionals or try do it themselves.

Shellee Adkins

self-administration

Huntsville, TX

We are all made in the image of God upon conception a new creation is formed. Abortion is murder and should be abolished, regardless of the growth stage of the human being. Being inside of the womb, does not declare you do not have life ordained by God. We are responsible for the defense of the most defenseless there is. Thank you

Deena Ricard, Nurse

Myself

Palestine, TX

Please fight for these babies! They are babies from the moment of conception, please help Jesus 's children, we must stop murdering our babies

Sally Tutor

Self, Home-maker

Burnet, TX

Thank you for the time and effort each of you are giving to serve the citizens of Texas.

HB 1280 is a bill I cannot support, because it bows to a court decision that is unconstitutional. Texas must be bold and recognize and declare that because life begins at conception unborn children cannot be denied equal protection.

I also ask that this bill be amended so that a mother who knowingly and with malice takes the life of her child in the womb through abortion can be held accountable. Our judicial system is able to make the determination of whether a woman was coerced or victimized in some way. Many woman know full well that they are carrying a living human, but they don't want to be inconvenienced. During my years of work at a crisis pregnancy center, the majority of the women I spoke with who were abortion minded knew the baby wasn't just "a clump of cells" but they preferred abortion to adoption or keeping their child. They knew they were choosing death for their baby. It's heartbreaking that there is no penalty for cold-hearted murder.

I hope that this bill will be rejected and HB 3326 will be given an immediate hearing instead.

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Dianne Thompson, Mrs

Self retired

Granbury, TX

Don't agree with creating a criminal offense

celeste arrazolo

Self and WOMEN

Pearland, TX

This bill doesn't protect the health of women as it makes it almost impossible to get an abortion EVEN if it's medically life threatening which child bearing already is to begin with. If we really cared about women how is it the governments place to force a life-threatening condition on them? Men have a choice. Why are men included in this debate? Cis men will never carry a life. In what way does this help society? Abortion is safe. It's been proven that women will continue to get abortions whether safely or not. This bill is a huge health risk and violation. Personally only Vile people would pass legislation like this, please don't pretend you speak for the people. You do not. Where are the bills for the children we have here on the planet already? Many forgotten and discarded and broken by the SYSTEM. The same system that will force unwilling mothers to carry an unwanted fetus. Why is plan b not free? Why are condones not free? Why don't we make the birth control pill free for men? Why would you rather introduce a bill that will bring so much agony to Women, children, and families alike. The government should not be making decisions like this when they baseless. Separate the church and government once and for all as PROMISED.

Bertha Martinez

Self- House wife

Kingwood, TX

An unborn is a life growing in a woman's womb that depends on her body to reach its develop. it is a human being from the instant of the conception. Justice call a crime to end the life of a human being. It is a crime to end their life inside their mother's wombs. They have the right to live!

Patricia Sumrow

Myself

Frisco, TX

I'm a Texas resident asking the committee to STOP advancing any legislation that attacks abortion access and regulates medical decisions I as a woman should make with my doctor. I strongly oppose House Bill 1280. The Texas House needs to focus on the real crises facing Texans like access to health care, responding to COVID-19, maternal mortality, and the energy crisis, not Dan Patrick's political agenda.

LeLynne Waltman-Knight

SELF

Mansfield, TX

As a 58 year old woman and mother I am stunned that the access to have an abortion is once again up for debate. Women's reproductive health is not a political issue it is a fundamental right for a woman to have both the access and the right to safe healthcare.

thomas Pelkey

self/self employed

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Katy, TX

this bill is decades overdue/ABORTION is premeditated murder/those that had opportunity to stop the slaughter of a helpless fellow human & abdicated will be judged/Gods word is clear "thou shalt not kill"/those that die without repentance will suffer indescribable torment forever in HELL/change your mind now while you can. tom.

Daniela Resendez

Self/Student

Houston, TX

My name is Daniela and I oppose bill HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760.

Theodore Jones

Self

Katy, TX

Texas is lagging far, far behind removing or updating statutes that affect people's lives.

Amy Bell

self

Galveston, TX

Oppose

Natasha Hargrove, Mrs

self

Morgan Mill, TX

No more murdered babies !

Andrea Sabillon

Self

Tyler, TX

I support this bill. I had an abortion 18 years ago and wish it had not been legal. If it would have been illegal and there would have been punishable consequences I would have NEVER sought to have it. I was scared and ashamed of the position I put myself in being pregnant in college and unmarried. I acted out of fear and believed the lies that I was not taking a life. But I did take a life, my sons life and I regret it to this day. If I would have had no easy way out of my own mistakes of having casual, unprotected sex. I would have had to deal with the situation I put myself in and I would have had nine months to make a plan and accept what my actions had created, a baby, my baby, my son. Women and men don't need a quick, permanent solution to decide the fate of a life, a baby, a child, an adult they need time to think and reasonable decide without fear, shame and condemnation how they can protect the life they have conceived. There are so many alternatives to killing their child. We need to fund adoption agencies and pregnancy centers that teach the women and men how to raise this child they created and help financially deliver their child. Abortions should not be funded and should not be legal in Texas or any state or country in this world. There are millions of women and men who have aborted their child and regret it. If it had not been legal and available many of them would have never made that choice and would have their children to raise and love. Please stop the lies, abortion kills not only the baby, it destroys the life's of the women and men who decide to do it.

Theodore Raymond, Mr

Self

Cleveland, TX

I would like to comment on all these bills as iniquitous decrees in the eyes of God. These bills are just more regulation of abortion. Something we've been doing for 48 years. I urge you to reject the continued regulation of abortion and give HB3326 a hearing so that abortion can be abolished in Texas.

Meredith Duke

self, realtor

Belton, TX

Life begins at conception and ending that life should have penalties. If society claims that murderers are penalized for taking the life of another AFTER birth, then why would that not also apply for those taking a life while it's still in the womb? It's not like the baby that's in-utero isn't a baby. It's still a human. It has a beating heart. It wiggles, sucks its thumb, takes nourishment from the mom, and has a "life cord" to the mom for those nutrients. Humans don't give birth to whales, dolphins, cats or dogs. A human brings other humans into the world. There should be a penalty of some sort for that decision - at least something to make it not quite so easy.

James Herblin

self

Prosper, TX

Unfortunately, pro-life bills presented in the last 60 plus years have been inadequate and "soft", at best. Most pro-life legislation currently being presented is pragmatic (cowardly) as it does not put an end to abortion – the door is always left open. Texas needs to take seriously the fact that abortion is murder. Think about that statement for just a moment. Abortion is murder.

Texas legislators refuse to shut the door to abortion. Texas legislators put forth pragmatic pro-life bills which deal with superfluous ideas (resource access, hospital disclosures, discrimination, abortion costs, heartbeat issues, notifications, etc.) that will always allow a way out such that abortions will continue to be performed.

Back to my point, abortion is murder. As a matter of fact, it is premeditated murder. It is brutal. It is performed on the living innocent. It is the most serious kind of murder that one can commit. However, and unfortunately, most pro-life legislators craft legislation as though abortion is nothing more than a Class C misdemeanor versus the 1st degree murder that it is.

Why is this? Why are most Texas legislators not putting forth/supporting pro-life legislation that will shut the door to abortion? Ask yourself that question. Why pragmatism? Why the use of "clever" wordsmithing? Why not call murder, murder?

Have any of you ever seen a video illustrating an abortion? Have you seen a video entitled, "The Silent Scream"? You should do so before you decide. Understand that abortion is more than putting an end to something; it is the brutal murder of the innocent and living pre-born. That should mean something to all of us. Something is virtuously wrong with one who can view The Silent Scream and still be ambivalent to abortion being classified as anything other than the premeditated brutal murder of the innocent and living pre-born.

Do the right thing ladies and gentlemen. Many of you claim Christianity. OK, well, what would He do? Would He support/favor wordsmithing, pragmatism, cleverness, disingenuousness, etc. as a way to promote Christian living/obedience? Or was He loving and kind, yet bold and genuinely candid?

HB 3326 is the only bill presented that will candidly and courageously defend and end the current brutal murdering of the innocent and living pre-born. HB 3326 language loudly speaks "NO, NOT ON MY WATCH".

Fear not your adversaries, stand morally and judicially for the innocent and living pre-born - as He would.

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Marlyn Brown
Self Employed
I Duncanville, TX

Abortion is wrong! We have lost so many Americans due to COVID-19. Our country is grieving those losses. As a retired teacher and a grandmother I believe that every life is important. I served at Hope Mansion a home for unwed mothers. I witnessed first hand that with multiple resources and God's guidance young women can choose life for their babies and live in a productive way. America does not need to kill, harm or destroy the lives of any from the womb to the grave. God provides for each one. We are our brother's keeper. We are body, soul, and Spirit. I vote against abortion of any kind!

William Pierrarf, Magnolia
Self
Magnolia, TX

The prosecution of abortion solicitors should be on a case by case basis. Forty percent (+/-) of abortions can be attributed to coercion.

Charles Branscum, HVAC Tech II ATEM
self
Grand Prairie, TX

This is a must pass bill. STOP the murder of infants.

Linda Magid
Self
San Antonio, TX

Abortion is still legal in the United States and is considered health care. Criminalizing it is a waste of time because it will never stand up to federal law. Please don't waste the time of the public health committee, which needs to be addressing issues Texans actually are facing like accessible and affordable health care and COVID-19 vaccinations.

Marlyn Vinson
Self
KILGORE, TX

I'm am very pro-life!

Joan Kofteci
Trxas Wonems Democrats
League w, TX

Oppose

Ana Luisa Valdez
Self

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Dallas, TX

Four of five women who choose an abortion are mothers. Why would a mother choose to have an abortion? Because she can barely feed and care for the children she already has. And because there are few to zero options for affordable child care, and maybe the job she has pays a non living wage, starting at \$7.25 an hour, so she works two jobs, and she has terrible health insurance because Texas won't expand medicaid which is maybe why she has this unwanted pregnancy in the first place. SO many reasons.

And does the GOP provide solutions? NO. Let's throw another hurdle at that poor, struggling woman. Let's keep her entire family in poverty.

Be the party of solutions and ideas. Why must you pick on those less fortunate than you? Neither compassion or morality are with you in this effort.

madeleine Echols

self

Houston, TX

My name is Madeleine Echols and I oppose HB 1280. This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heartbreaking situation for any family. Without access to abortion care there could be lasting impacts on women and their families. This bill will put undue stress on families as well as our legal system. Abortion is health care. We should not be putting up so many unnecessary road blocks. Again, I oppose this bill because I believe that restricting abortion will only hurt women, not protect them.

Phyllis Duzan

Self

League City, TX

I oppose

Durham Cornett

Self

Waxahachie, TX

I'm for any bill that prevents abortions.

Rachel Gollay

self

Fort Worth, TX

I strongly oppose the extreme and dangerous HB 1280. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

GARY STUTZ

self

Centerville, TX

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Thank you for saving the life of those that are alive even when not yet seen!

Donald Green, Mr.
Retired
League City, TX

Oppose

Mary Walther
Self
Houston, TX

OPPOSE this bill. This is a blatant attack on women's rights.

Joel Tope
self
Kingsland, TX

Abortion is a plague on our state. I'm appealing to you as our state representatives to put a stop to it. You need to be the voice for the pre-born who cannot speak for themselves. Please be bold and protect our children by abolishing abortion in the State of Texas. You have an obligation before the LORD to do this. He is the One who has put you in this position "for such a time as this." Don't fear men. Fear the LORD! I respectfully urge the committee to reject this continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Thank you.

marilyn zwirek
self business owner
galveston, TX

OPPOSE

Edith Corbitt
Self
Whitney, TX

I'm opposed to any legislation that intrudes on choice of healthcare between patient and healthcare professionals. Government should have no interference in a citizens right to healthcare procedure choice.

Carol Vanarsdel
Self Bookkeeper
Arlington, TX

Please support this bill and abolish abortion forever. Thanks so much!

Laura Braley
Self

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Plano, TX

Please reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Jeana Nam

self, counselor

Houston, TX

This bill is extreme and dangerous. Abortion can be life-saving care, and denying it to a person who needs it is unconscionable. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Carisa Lopez

Texas Freedom Network

Austin, TX

The Texas Freedom Network, an organization of more than 170,000 religious and community leaders and young people who support equality and social justice.

Today I am registering TFN's opposition to HB 1280.

Abortion is health care, and polling shows that the majority of Texans support the constitutional right to obtain one. This legislation represents yet another reckless, unconstitutional attack on the right of Texans to access to safe, legal abortion care.

All Texans should be free to determine the course of their own reproductive lives, including whether and when to become a parent. Nobody should face fear, stigma, or unnecessary barriers when seeking out reproductive health care, including abortion care.

Research shows one in four women will have an abortion in her lifetime. It is no one's place — especially not the government's — to interfere in the reproductive decisions they make, including decisions about abortion and birth control.

When people can make decisions that are best for their lives, families thrive and we build communities where each of us can participate with dignity and equality. And when someone decides to have an abortion, it should be safe, affordable, and free from punishment or judgment.

TFN urges the House Public Health Committee to defend the right of Texans to make their own reproductive health care decisions and not to approve this bill for consideration by the full House.

Janet Dudding

Self

Bryan, TX

Oppose

Angelica Martinez

self

Seguin, TX

My name is Angie MartinezDavis and I oppose HB 1280. I oppose this on the basis that women have the right to make a personal choice about their body. Further, women need to be able to find safe and affordable access to an abortion without fear of it being

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considered a "criminal offense". I urge you to reject this legislation.

Theresa Russell, Ms

Self

Pflugerville, TX

Please stop abortion. Every child has rights that were God given at conception. Please stop the murder of these innocent lives.

Paula Huber

Self

Spring, TX

An abortion is a medical procedure. Prohibiting a woman from having an abortion would violate her right to life, as many times, abortions are done to save the mother's life.

Malissa Torres

-- please select a prefix --

Three Rivers, TX

Women healthcare should never be decided by religious zealots in the Texas Legislature. HB 1280 is a trigger bill that would immediately ban all access to abortion upon Roe v Wade being overturned. Texas Republicans want women to die with coat hangers instead, of having healthcare access. I oppose HB 1280, stay out of our wombs

Candi Bedford, Mrs.

Self

River Oaks, TX

Please prayerfully consider HB 3326. It's a life not a choice. It's a baby not a glob of tissue. God knew this child before the foundations of this world was created. God can not be pleased with a nation that kills the unborn. We can't expect God to "bless America", when we continue to commit this heinous crime.

Michelle Morris

Myself, financial planner

Missouri City, TX

OPPOSE

Lyndsi Lambert

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Lyndsi Lambert and I oppose HB 1280.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to

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term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

I urge you to reject this cruel legislation.

Petra Weldes, Rev. Dr.

CSLDallas, a Center for Spiritual Living

Dallas, TX

Abortion is a legal right in the United States, federally mandated. It is unacceptable that the State of Texas should deny women this right and criminalize that which has been made legal by our Federal Government and the Supreme Court. No faith should dictate how others live their own lives.

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Nelda Swinney, Ms

Self

Arp, TX

I oppose abortion! All life is precious!

Adam Smok

Self

Weatherford, TX

Killing anything with a heartbeat is murder. Abortion is the murder of a human being and needs to be stopped.

Arun Welch

self

Missouri City, TX

Abortion is an essential part of health care and decisions regarding this treatment should be made by the patient and the healthcare provider, not by the legislature.

Hannah Sullivan

Self

Lubbock, TX

Women deserve better! No one should be able to tell women how to control their bodies. Ridiculous and archaic, and potentially fatal to people who will seek abortions in other ways.

Susan Markus

Retired

Austin, TX

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I oppose this bill. Women have a constitutionally protected right to choose how we live our reproductive lives. The state should not interfere in our personal medical decisions. Focus on effective sex education and making birth control readily available instead.

Michael Rastiello
Self, Product Manager
Austin, TX

This is a dangerous bill that would unfairly treat Texans seeking medical care that should remain private between them and their doctor. The government has no place in this discussion or decision.

Sylvia Coulson
Self Dietitian
Waxahachie, TX

I support this bill. We must save the babies We should not wait for Roe v Wast though. We just need to abolish abortion.

Sara Beckner
Self - QA
Pflugerville, TX

OPPOSE

Ilan Huang
Self/ educator
Round Rock, TX

Please vote yes to prohibit abortion. Abortion has killed over 62 million babies since the passing of Roe vs Wade. God hates the shedding of innocent blood. America has blood on her hands. We must stop this genocide. It took brave men and women to stop the annihilation of the Jews during the Nazi regime. We need brave men and women to stop the killing of innocent babies through abortion.

Lexy Garcia
Texas Rising
San Antonio, TX

This bill is a direct attack on low wage, unemployed, black and brown people who are protected, just like those who can afford it, to have an abortion. There are already so many barriers to this medically necessary procedure. Passing this bill will cost lives. Abortion is a fundamental part of healthcare and must be protected and made more accessible at all costs. To vote for this bill is both racist and classist in a state where there is no medicaid assistance and so few clinics. Adding stipulation or even more criteria to a persons ability to avoid an unwanted pregnancy, and then criminalizing that is moving in the opposite direction to achieve true reproductive freedom for all texans, and not this regulatory fight over and over again.

Katharina Teichroeb
Self
Seminole, TX

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Please hear HB 3326.
And stand you for the life of the unborn innocent babies.
May the Lord bless you for doing so.

Maggie Adams
Self, stay at home parent
Nacogdoches, TX

Oppose. Any efforts to criminalize abortion puts women's lives in danger. Women and their healthcare providers should be the only ones making decisions about necessary medical care.

Melanie Fletcher
Self writer
Plano, TX

I oppose this bill as I consider it to be far too restrictive, extreme, and dangerous for the health of women.

Monica Contreras
Self
Laredo, TX

Hello, my name is Monica
I am personally against this bill for numerous reason including that the government should not be making a woman's decision for her. It is unethical & unprofessional that this bill was made to control women. Without an medically safe abortion, I wouldn't be a productive member of society that contributes to the american economy. I urge everyone to not pass this bill since it would create an influx of dangerous abortions, force women to travel out of state or country, & will give texas a bad reputation on how they treat their citizens.

Elizabeth Seiders
N/A
Round Rock, TX

I have four children. God's grace helped me provide for them when I did not have faith that I could. I could not imagine the pain mentally and emotionally
Of ending life.

Jessica Rauch
self, stay at home mother
79124, TX

My name is Jessica Rauch and I oppose House Bill 1280. This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. This bill would force pregnant people to carry a pregnancy to term causing undue mental and physical harm. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on a patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. As someone who could have died because of a high-risk pregnancy, a patient needs to be able to come to the decision on whether to keep or terminate a pregnancy with the aid of a medical professional, not a legislator. The government has no place in a doctors office. As none of the state legislators are doctors, please

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stop making medical decisions for Texans.

As a mother, I am strongly opposed to abortion bans and restrictions because I know how dangerous and difficult pregnancy and childbirth are. Pregnant people have rights and deserve to choose what to do with their bodies. There are no laws governing what a man can do with their body and there should be no laws governing anyone else's. This bill is dangerous for pregnant Texans and is outright cruel and I urge you to reject this legislation.

Scott Langridge

Self, Attendant Care Services

Kyle, TX

This is absolutely ridiculous. We, as human beings, have no right nor place to criminalize the decisions made about the autonomy of the female body. No state nor body of government should have the power to objectify women as beings of regulation. It is their choice, not the state's

Heidi Gordon

Self / None

League City, TX

Oppose. Keep abortion legal and safe

Judy Bain, NNICU RN RETIRED

Self

Quitman, TX

I am against abortion. I believe it is a baby from the moment of conception. Physicians take an oath to do no harm. There should be penalties for destroying the life of a child in or out of the womb. If someone kills a mother and she is pregnant they are charged with 2 murders. Under that law the infant in her womb is considered a person. How can the child be "not a person" because it is unwanted in one case and "become a person" in the other case because it is wanted? Doesn't make sense. Only if the mother's life is in danger and there is no alternative should it be legal and rare.

Karin Swanson

Abolish Abortion Texas

Lindale, TX

Please stop just regulating abortion in Texas and hear HB 3326. Thank you!

Hannah Thalenberg

Self, abortion funder

Houston, TX

My name is Hannah Thalenberg, I had an abortion, and I oppose House Bill 1280. Banning abortion in Texas in the case that Roe v. Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions, goes against every directive of a committee responsible for promoting public health.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and their children (because abortion is, too, a parenting decision) living in poverty. When I was a young adult living off of tips to support myself and my abusive partner, not being able to have an abortion would have meant being thrown into even more hardship and being unable to give a child the care they need and deserve. Every Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their

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families.

HB 1280 is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. When anyone is faced with such unspeakable grief, they should not be forced to either carry an unviable pregnancy to term or spend precious time and resources traveling across state lines for essential health care. Their health care provider should not be forced to decide between the health and well-being of a patient and their own ability to continue practicing medicine. What a callous proposition!

Lastly, people have been needing abortions for as long as they've been getting pregnant. Criminalizing abortion would only make it riskier to obtain, be it because people have to resort to unsafe measures or because managing their own abortion using pills, albeit extremely safe, may subject them to criminalization in Texas.

We are still in the midst of a devastating global pandemic, and too many Texans still haven't recovered from the winter storm that ravaged our state earlier this year. Instead of threatening to criminalize abortion in order to score political points, I urge this committee to oppose House Bill 1280 and focus instead on the very real public health challenges we face.

Anne Meng

self, nurse

Houston, TX

Support HB 3326

We don't need "heart beat" bills - these are not enforceable and we've had 48 years of failure with bills like this. We need to stop killing infants now (155 babies killed each day!) Completle abolish abortion - support HB 3326.

Thank you.

Amber Laird

self, clerical

Austin, TX

I oppose this measure. Abortion is healthcare and should not be prohibited or restricted.

Emily Domaschk

Self, audit & compliance manager

Elgin, TX

My name is Emily Domaschk and I oppose HB1280.

This bill intends to ban abortion in Texas. It would subject doctors who are providing health care to women to criminal and civil actions. It would prevent parents dealing with the heartbreak of a lethal fetal diagnosis from seeking effective care for the mother, putting her at risk of additional complications while continuing an ill-fated pregnancy.

This type of legislation doesn't reduce the need for abortion. The most effective solution is improved medical care, access to effective birth control, and improved sex ed, that's not abstinence only but realistic. Conception takes both a man and a woman, and these attempts to limit abortion all focus on only policing women's bodies.

Kathryn Motard

Retired

Houston, TX

Women in consultation with their doctor are the only ones who have the right to make this decision. Texas legislators DO NOT

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have the right to make abortion criminal or prohibit it if that is what a women chooses

Arthur Simon

self, artist

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill because an American citizen has the right to a safe and legal abortion, no matter what Texas says.

Joni Silva

Self, Silva Lining Voice Over, LLC

Houston, TX

I oppose this bill as it infringes on my right to make my own decisions regarding my health and my body. Keep the Government out of my personal choices. Vote to oppose this bill.

Aditya Gollakota

Self - Student

Austin, TX

This is an absolutely terrible bill and restricts the fundamental freedoms of women. The government is not in a position to regulate a woman's body. I use this to vehemently oppose this bill.

Carol Andrews

Self

League City, TX

I oppose

Soraya Dadras

Whole Woman's Health Alliance

Austin, TX

My name is Soraya Dadras, MPH, and I am a Clinic Director at Whole Woman's Health Alliance (WWHA). I am in opposition to House Bill 1280. We've seen firsthand what would happen in Texas if Roe v. Wade were overturned and abortions were banned in the state of Texas. In March and April of 2020, Governor Greg Abbott exploited the COVID-19 pandemic and signed an executive order that temporarily banned abortions. This placed providers and patients in a holding pattern, leaving people desperate as they sought out safe abortion care.

Under this bill's language, abortion would be banned in the state with few exceptions, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions. Closing clinics and banning abortions do not stop pregnant Texans from obtaining abortions. Patients who called our clinics during the COVID-19 shutdown looked for alternatives. Many were forced to travel hundreds to thousands of miles to other states to legally obtain care. If this bill passes into law, this would be the new normal for people in the state who decide to terminate a pregnancy.

The ability to access abortion is a critical component of the health and dignity of every Texan. Major medical organizations like American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Family Physicians have affirmed that reproductive healthcare is essential to woman's overall health and access to abortions are an important component to reproductive healthcare.

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Texas leaders need to allow people in this state to benefit from the best advancements in science and medicine. For all these reasons, I oppose House Bill 1280.

MARIAN MACKEY

TEXAS MARIJUANA POLICY

Baytown, TX

I SUPPORT HB1280

Elizabeth Harper

Montgomery County, Texas

Conroe, TX

I request you vote yes on this bill - completely abolishing abortion in our great state. ALL LIVES MATTER - even the unborn! This population is most vulnerable as they have no voice. The murder of babies is the most egregious crime ever perpetrated in our nation. Please do the right thing.

With regard,
Elizabeth Harper

Brenda Vaughn, Ms.

Self

Bridgeport, TX

Science has shown that life begins at conception. Morals know life begins at conception. Therefore any bill that prohibits the killing of unborn babies (abortion), should be passed in to law. Texas should be a sanctuary state for the unborn!

Frank Holman

Self

Austin, TX

I am in favor of this Bill and request a vote to send it to the House Floor.

Stephen Bishop

Self

Houston, TX

This is yet another example of government interference in the patient/doctor relationship. Government interference is anti democratic.

Leslie Rahuba, Ms.

Self

Houston, TX

Oppose

Susan Peloquin

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Self Retire Relocation Consultant/ Subsitute teacher

New Braunfels, TX

I support this bill wholeheartedly. It should be a criminal offense to perform an abortion. I will add that abortion is never medically necessary to actually save the life of the mother; you bring the baby early in that case, if the mother truly is going to die or perform necessary surgery to save the mother's life, even if the baby might not live. Those situations are VERY rare.

Plamena Petrova Petrova

self

League City, TX

Oppose!

Carrie Salazar

myself

Ft Worth, TX

Please reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Carrie Salazar

Abolish Abortion Texas

Ft Worth, TX

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Please reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Billy O'Dell

40 Days for Life Denton

Sanger, TX

On average, more than 155 children are murdered by abortion every day in our state.

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In spite of this horrific reality, the pro-life bills currently making progress through our legislature this session would take steps toward equal protection of our laws. I hope and pray that God would use you to help abolish abortion in our state.

The legislative priority of the Republican Party of Texas calls upon this legislature to “Abolish abortion by ensuring the right to life and equal protection of the laws to all preborn children from the moment of fertilization.”

I believe this is of the utmost importance that HB 1280 see a full vote by the the house. These bills are to important to not send them for a vote. We can't stand by and watch Children die. Let our representatives vote to determine the future of our state and how we will treat our most vulnerable. There are many other options to abortion, but killing can never be the way to handle an unplanned pregnancy. I am personally involved in helping organizations that actually help women in need. Lets get rid of abortion all together, but this is one step to make that happen. Thank you.

Dana Epley

Self. Self employed

Houston, TX

Oppose

Dana Epley

Self. Self employed

Houston, TX

Oppose

Brian McCurry

Self

Rowlett, TX

I respectfully urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Brandi Trevino

Self

Katy, TX

Oppose

Jillian Lopiano, Dr

Whole Woman's Health

Fort Worth, TX

My name is Dr. Jillian Lopiano, MD, MPH, FACOG and I am the Texas Medical Director at Whole Woman’s Health. I am in opposition to House Bill 1280. We’ve seen firsthand what would happen in Texas if Roe v. Wade were overturned and abortions were banned in the state of Texas. In March and April of 2020, Governor Greg Abbott exploited the COVID-19 pandemic and signed an executive order that temporarily banned abortions. This placed providers and patients in a holding pattern, leaving people desperate as they sought out safe abortion care.

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The ability to access abortion is a critical component of the health and dignity of every Texan. Major medical organizations like American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Family Physicians have affirmed that reproductive healthcare is essential to woman's overall health and access to abortions are an important component to reproductive healthcare.

Texas leaders need to allow people in this state to benefit from the best advancements in science and medicine. For all these reasons, I oppose House Bill 1280.

Rachel Pothier

Self

Plano, TX

My name is Rachel Pothier and I oppose House Bill 1280.

Texas women deserve the right to safe and legal abortion healthcare, as well as autonomy over their own bodies.

This bill is extreme in that it makes no exceptions for abortions, not even a lethal fetal diagnosis or rape. These situations are hard enough for any woman to go through already, and this bill forcing women to carry dead or non-consensual fetuses to term is cruel. Every Texan deserves the right to make the decision about what's best for them and their families.

Abortion access is a fundamental part of women's healthcare and rights. These bills will not stop abortion, only safe and legal abortion. Women should be able to control their own bodies, not governmental forces.

I urge you to reject this legislation. It's an extreme measure that will cause Texans a lot of undue suffering and unsafe medical practices.

Anne Grinols

Self retired

Woodway, TX

Although I support total abolition of abortion, I support this bill to save every life of a child possible as we wait for abortion to be abolished.

Gabriela Ahlheim, Mrs

self

Azle, TX

I urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas. Since Roe v. Wade over 60 million wombs have been dessimated by extracting a precious human life for no reason. With the current Biden/Harris administration these heinous procedures will continue under the guise of "healthcare." It's time Texas stepped up to the plate and went from being the 20th pro-life state to the number one spot for being proactive in protecting life in the womb.

Barbara Dearman

Self

Plano, TX

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Oppose

Lisa Ewing

self - homemaker

Montgomery, TX

I support this bill. An unborn child is a child, in or out of a womb, and should be protected by the law as any other human's life in this country. Purposeful killing of a child not yet born should be a criminal offense.

Stephanie Villanueva (she/her)

self - public health graduate student

Cypress, TX

My name is Stephanie Villanueva (she/her), and I oppose House Bill 1280. I personally oppose this bill because I have an undergraduate degree in Public Health, and I currently am a graduate student pursuing my Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at UTHealth School of Public Health. I want to make it clear to the Texas Legislature that abortion is healthcare, therefore I would like to express my opposition to HB 1280. I am against this anti-abortion bill. I care about abortion access, because this is a medical decision that should be decided between the patient and the doctor, not by legislators. I urge you all to reject this legislation.

Gyla Fowler, Ms

Gyla Fowler

Austin, TX

Women need access to safe, affordable abortions. Abortion care is health care. Leave our healthcare alone. Nothing like a bunch of white men making decisions for women about their bodies.

Sandra Alexander

Self- prayer partner

Midlothian, TX

Let me urge the committee to reject the continued regulation of abortion and to immediately hear HB 3326 which would completely abolish abortion in Texas.

Amelia Long

Self, nonprofit employee

Austin, TX

I am a Texan against this bill. Abortion is healthcare and should not be criminalized. Criminalizing abortion is morally wrong and has devastating public health outcomes. We have seen it in other countries. Don't do this to Texas.

Courtney Chambers

self - public health professional

Austin, TX

My name is Courtney Chambers, MPH and I oppose HB 1280. Instead of focusing on banning abortion, the Texas Legislature should be focusing on helping Texans rather than causing more harm. Abortion is a private and personal decision that the state has

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no business interfering in. This bill is particularly extreme and cruel in that it has no exceptions and would force people to give birth under all kinds of horrible circumstances.

Shawn Troxell, Ms

Self

New Braunfels, TX

To whomever reads this:

I am very much against HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218 and HB 3760. My representative, knows my opinion. He believes, like the supporters of these bills, that their religious beliefs should be forced upon all of us.

They believe life begins at conception. Science proves it does not.

Therefore, these bills cannot become laws because they infringe upon my rights. There can be no using religion to make a law. Don't you agree?

In denying women the right to choose you are condemning many of us to a harder life, with more obstacles, often shamed as a single mother, unable to find a good paying job and hours that work while also raising a child.

It seems to me that you simply don't care about us.

What I do to my body is not your choice.

NOT your choice.

The choice is mine.

You must not allow these bills up for discussion, much less a vote. Too many men, too many religious men, too many white old religious men simply cannot be allowed to debate a woman's right to choose.

I'm not alone in my anger over these bills.

So I will be watching what's happening and sharing with my family, friends, and former students.

Renee Roth

Self

Tyler, TX

Oppose

Bettie Forman

Bettie Forman

Austin, TX

oppose strongly!

Carli Mosier

Self<

Houston, TX

Bills like this are dangerous to the health and safety of women. Being conscientious about your health shouldn't be a criminal offense and will only lead to illegal procedures that will lead to the deaths of many women in Texas. You cannot say you're pro life and actively promote bills that will lead to deaths of our wonderful citizens. My niece recently had an abortion because of serious medical concerns. You would punish a woman and her doctor for ensuring that she stayed alive to try to have another child.

Charlie Bell

Self

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Austin, TX

I do not support this bill and urge the legislature to vote it down. Rep. Capriglione is not a doctor, does not understand what healthcare is, and is willing to let a woman die during her pregnancy than allow her to receive a live-saving abortion. That is immoral and wrong. This is a bad bill.

Jeri Saper, Mrs

Self - Business Owner

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. Women have a right to make decisions about their own bodies.

Julie Grimstad, Mrs.

Healthcare Advocacy & Leadership Org.

Bedford, TX

I support this bill.

Isabelle Headrick

self, student

Austin, TX

I oppose this as a dangerous and unlawful attack on the human rights of women, on religious freedom, and on medical privacy. This is a Christian supremacist and male supremacist bill.

Kendall Bentsen

self

Houston, TX

If Texas law prohibits abortion, then it takes no stretch of the imagination to see how the state could prosecute women for the outcomes of their pregnancies.

No pregnant person can guarantee a healthy birth outcome: 15-20% of all pregnancies end in a miscarriage or a stillbirth. How will the Texas Legislature differentiate a medical abortion caused by Mifepristone-Misoprostol from a "spontaneous abortion" (i.e. miscarriage)? This bill will open the door for pregnant women to be held criminally responsible for their pregnancy outcomes. A pregnant woman could face criminal prosecution for every action and inaction that is believed by her partner, law enforcement, or prosecutors to result in a miscarriage or stillbirth, even if she intended to go to term.

Criminalizing someone for their pregnancy outcome also undermines the doctor-patient relationship and deters pregnant women from obtaining prenatal care. Intended or not, this legislation will further promote state surveillance to police pregnancy and will keep pregnant women from being honest with their providers. Passing legislation that causes pregnant women to be scared off from prenatal care doesn't just hurt the pregnant woman, it hurts her baby and family.

I strongly oppose this bill. Whether intended this way or not, it amounts to nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to further entrench hostility towards pregnant women into Texas law. Rather than further curtailing access to abortion, the Texas legislature should focus on the true threats to women and infant health, including access to quality healthcare, intimate partner violence, and maternal mortality, of which Texas ranks in the top 20% in the country. If you really value life, value the people who create life.

Kim Kahn

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Ncjlw

Austin, TX

Putting a women's health before that of her unborn fetus is a fundamental belief of my Jewish faith. I therefore implore you not to pass this prohibitive bill.

Cat Yuracka, Mrs

Myself

San Marcos, TX

I oppose this attempt to restrict women's rights to manage their own healthcare. Republicans are always saying the "big government" needs to stay out of citizens' personal lives...even to the point of not having governmental regulations where they are needed for the protection of the citizenry. Please keep "big government" out of the discussions that should be between women and their doctors and my families, and the decisions that belong to women alone.

Branda Thomas

Decatur Matting and Framing

Decatur, TX

I am in favor of passing this bill.

Jill Robbins

Self

Holland, TX

This bill doesn't go far enough. Why are we not honoring the will of the majority of the delegates who are asking for complete cessation of all abortions which will show an equal justice system working for all pre born infants?

Cat Yuracka, Mrs

Self

San Marcos, TX

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Diana Richards
Self, Volunteer
Sherman, TX

I am writing today, as a Texan, Mother, Voter and Taxpayer to express that I am FOR HB 1280. Please pass this important trigger bill favorably out of committee.

Wendy Tomlinson, Dr
NCJW
Austin, TX

Abortion is a legal medical procedure and should not be subject to regulation by the state. It is a private matter, a concern for women and their doctors.

eileen Ladd
NCJW
Austin, TX

The government should stay out of a woman's health decisions

Marsha Strongin
Self, attorney
Austin, TX

Decisions on abortion should be up to the woman carrying the fetus. A woman should have the right to decide what happens to her own body.

Sharon Krumholz
Self, retiring
Austin, TX

I oppose this bill as it is unconstitutional, and it goes against the teachings and practice of the Jewish faith.

autumn keiser
self. Director of Marketing and Communications
Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to HB 1280 - a bill even the author cannot fully or capably articulate in testimony. The disregard of the life, health, and wellbeing of pregnant Texans in this bill is SHOCKING. As a pregnant person experiences serious complications during pregnancy, if this bill becomes law doctors would face not only the pressure of treating a vulnerable and sick patient, but also medically-negligent and ignorant legislation that cannot possibly anticipate the nuanced approach necessary in emergent healthcare. Doctors will be pressed to allow a woman to become SICK ENOUGH FOR HER LIFE TO BE IN DANGER to an
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extent that they can amply document the need for any medical intervention, including termination. This is not pro-life. This is the definition of over legislation of private medical decisions in some of the most dangerous and sensitive medical situations. No other medical procedures are subject to this sort of divided priorities - to treat the patient AND meet the legal obligations determined by elected officials not aware of the immediate medical situation at hand. This is reckless, medically-unnecessary legislation that will cripple patient care when it is needed most and penalize well-intentioned doctors working to care for pregnant Texans.

Gloria Elliott
self/legal assistant
Houston, TX

The unborn do not have a say as to whether they live or die; please support any pro-life measurements that need to be implemented to help keep our unborn safe. There are too many using abortion as a birth control method and millions of babies are being aborted yearly.

Nina Nikolova
self,self-employed
League city, TX

Against

Wendi Hammond
Self
Plano, TX

I oppose HB 1280 by Capriglione. It is a violation of the US and TX Constitutions, an infringement on religious freedom, and completely discriminatory against women.

Instead of restricting women's health choices through civil and criminal penalties, the State of Texas should expand women's choices by passing legislation that enables women to safely & economically choose to carry a pregnancy to term or make an informed medical determination to end a pregnancy. Texas would benefit greatly from providing safety nets and incentives like paid parental leave, paid childcare, and access to free birth control.

This is a horribly regressive bill that targets and harms half the population in an unconstitutional manner. It unnecessarily inserts the State into the private realm between a woman's health and her doctor. Therefore, HB 1280 bill should be denied by the entire committee & legislature.

Caren Edelstein
National Council of Jewish Women
Dallas, TX

Women decide to have an abortion for many reasons, and that decision should be between a woman and her doctor. I am pro-life, but my faith tells me that life begins at the first breath out of the womb. My faith also prohibits burying a fetus. No woman should be punished for the very difficult decision to have an abortion. If we are truly "pro-life" than the mental well being of the mother should be a consideration when enacting these draconian laws. The decision to end a pregnancy should not infringe on religious freedom . Others religious freedom does not preclude another's religious freedom.

I have known women who contracted Rubella in their first trimester, they knew that their baby was horribly defected, yet could not get an abortion(pre Roe vWade). These babies were born blind, deaf and with cerebral palsy , what was their quality of life? I have also known women who did not find out until the last trimester that their babies brains did not develop, these babies faced a shot painful life, again there are many reasons a woman chooses to end a pregnancy. One of these bills prohibits "discriminatory

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abortion" , whose discrimination and who makes that call? I am old enough to remember when women used coat hangers and drank bleach to end a pregnancy, is that what these bills want to take us back to? If women want to end a pregnancy, they will find a way. This disrespect and control over women's bodies is like going back to the dark ages. I urge you to vote no on these bills.

Denise Lemos Zaborowski, Dr
self - psychotherapist

Austin, TX

Against

Connie Haham, Ms.
NCJW

Austin, TX

I strongly object to bills meant to criminalize or otherwise limit a woman's choice to have an abortion. Access to abortion in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy should be open to all, with no qualifications. A woman who aborts a fetus should never face questions, intimidation or penalty of any sort. Nor should any qualified medical professional who performs an abortion. Please retract this bill. Women should never again be put in the position they were in before Roe vs Wade, and lawmakers should not infuse their legislation with their private convictions, particularly those not widely consented to in society. I remember when classmates disappeared from my life in the 1960s and returned with babies they were too young to care for. Would that they had the options that were later available. Do not subject our daughters and granddaughters to your beliefs. In turn, no one will insist that your wives, your daughters have abortions if they do not wish to. It is called choice and respect for personhood.

Merle Dover
n/a

Austin, TX

I am strongly opposed to this bill. Reproductive choice is a fundamental right of all women and a decision between her and her doctor. The government should not be involved in this decision.

Lisa Tolhurst
self/RN

Dickinson, TX

Oppose. The states should not be allowed to prohibit abortion nor impose unjust penalties or criminal charges.

Linda Carriere, Ms
Self

Nacodoches, TX

Please hear HB 3326 because I am pro life for the unborn! You were born and have been blessed. Give children in the womb life. You are responsible for saving lives with your vote. Thank you for doing what is right.

Emma Walters
Self

McKinney, TX

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Fun fact, I don't know where you're from, but in the United States of America, abortion is legal. This bill is not only an insult to Texans with reproductive systems, it's literally illegal. Seriously? Do better.

Aaron Oliver, CPT, EN, TXARNG

Self, Full-time Texas Army National Guard Engineer Officer

Buda, TX

I believe that all human life is sacred. Accordingly, human life must be afforded the full protection of American law at all levels. Since 1973, only the unborn have been denied the protection of law in Texas and America. This is a travesty, a miscarriage of justice, and a stain upon the legal and social fabric of our Republic. We must right this egregious wickedness. May God judge us all if we fail to do so! Thank you for your time and consideration.

Deborah Roberson

Self- mental healthcare practitioner

Pflugerville, TX

I am in firm OPPOSITION to these bills. They will not advance the healthcare of women in Texas. They are a step backwards in protecting reproduction freedom for women.

They will cause back-alley abortionists to flourish and cause more damage to women's lives and reproductive organs.

Do NOT sign these anti-abortion bills!

Lynn Krasnow

Self

Austin, TX

Vote NO. Respect a woman's right to make decisions on these issues in conjunction with her religious beliefs, her family, and her doctor.

Betty Taylor

self

BROWNWOOD, TX

This bill is not enforceable, and does not provide equal protection for life in the womb. Please instead support HB 3326. Thank you.

Betty Taylor, 4414 Rosewood Drive, Brownwood, Tx 76801

Betty Taylor

self

BROWNWOOD, TX

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Betty Taylor, 4414 Rosewood Drive, Brownwood, Tx 76801

Kathy Turner

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self, retired

McGregor, TX

Although my preference would be for a outright, immediate abolition of abortion, I support this bill and urge the Committee to report it favorably out of committee so that Texas would be ready to restore the right to life of all Texans, including the preborn, soon after Roe v. Wade is overturned. Thank you for hearing this bill.

James Apple

Self

Kemah, TX

Against!

Donna Verret

Self

Tiki Island, TX

Oppose

Donna Verret

P4CRBP

Galveston, TX

Oppose

Brittany Greece

Self

North Richland Hills, TX

My name is Brittany Greece and I oppose House Bill 1280. Abortion access should be available with no restrictions. Abortion is healthcare.

Laurie Blair

Self

Terrell, TX

OPPOSE

Cristina Chavez

Self and Deeds Not Words

Austin, TX

My name is Cristina Chavez and I oppose HB 1280. As someone who knows she does not want children, both for personal and for health reasons that would make pregnancy difficult, this bill would remove my choice should I ever get pregnant. It would remove my autonomy over my own body and my own life. Abortions are safe and legal procedures, and a person's choice to have one should be between themselves and their doctor. I urge you to vote no on this bill.

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Shari Davis, Ms

NCJW

Austin, TX

Oppose

Fred Grube, Chairman

Polk County Republican Party

Livingston, TX

Madam Chair, members, my name is Fred Grube. I'm representing myself, Catholics for the Abolition of Abortion in Texas, and the Polk County Republican Party, and I'm testifying against HB 1280.

According to Article XI, paragraph 2 of the United States Constitution only the laws made in pursuance of the Constitution are the supreme law of the land. Nowhere in the Constitution does say there is a right to an abortion. Nor does the Constitution say the federal government can prohibit states from outlawing abortion. Clearly, the federal government in not acting in pursuance of the constitution on the issue of abortion and that unconstitutional ruling is not the supreme law so Roe Texas must ignore Roe.

Trigger ban bills merely codify the Supreme Court's unconstitutional ruling by proclaiming that Texas will not ban abortion until the Supreme Court overturns their own ruling, or until the United States passes a Constitutional amendment overturning Roe v. Wade. Complying with Roe v. Wade while trying to pass whatever bills the federal courts will allow until the Supreme Court overturns Roe is the same weak, failing strategy that hasn't worked for the last 48 years and Republican officials are sorely mistaken if they expect their support for such weak bills to suffice as the bold actions expected of them.

The RPT's legislative priority specifically asks law makers to provide equal protection. Therefore I'm asking you to offer a committee substitute with the language found in the only bill in the Texas Legislature that provides equal protection, that being HB 3326.

I humbly ask this committee to allow for God's blessing by walking by faith, and not by sight. Know that God has brought you to power for such a time as this and, as you swore before Him, so help you God. Now you must simply do your duty and leave the results to Him.

Thank you,

Fred Grube

County Chair, Polk County Republican Party

Elaine Bernstein, Ms

self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill. Women with means will still get abortions. It only penalizes the poor and the providers. Abortion is not about birth control it is a health issue.

Janet Parker

NCJW

Austin, TX

I am against this bill.

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Adrian Metzger

self

Luling, TX

Abortion never should have been made legal, and now that we can see inside the womb, there is even less excuse for continuing this horrific practice which brings so much misery to the individual and society at large. This bill is the way for Texas to add its voice to the growing chorus that tells the Supreme Court it should overturn its previous ruling regarding the legality of abortion. I was taught that "them as can do has to do for them as can't. And someone has to speak up for them as has no voices." Let Texas be a voice for the unborn.

Nancy Mayers

self retired

Austin, TX

Abortion is not your business. It must be the choice of the individual woman. What you are doing is criminal. A woman's choice is not criminal and should not be subject to penalty of any sort.

Lorraine Diaz-Andrews

Self-retired educator

Channelview, TX

A woman's right to make the choice to terminate a pregnancy is a personal, economic and medical decision. I am opposed to this bill because it criminalizes personal choice.

Elizabeth Protas, Dr.

Self, physical therapist

League City, TX

Opposed

Shannon Morse

self

Dallas, TX

I oppose HB 1280 for many reasons. Roe v Wade not only protects a woman's right to make her own moral decision about her body and reproductive choices, it also protects my religious liberty. There is widespread disagreement about when life begins, thus it becomes an unstable foundation on which to base legislation. Not all religions believe that life begins at conception or that a fetus in utero constitutes a "human being". Legislating against a woman's right to have full agency over her health and reproductive choices may also impinge on her religious liberty.

Crystal Lopez

Self

Austin, TX

Abortions should not be prohibited. What a woman does with her own body is her choice and something only she has control over.

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Ashley Leach, Houston

Self

Houston, TX

Please consider HB3326 and end continued regulated abortions. Abolish Abortion in Texas

Allison Smith

self, University Student

College Station, TX

Absolutely disgusting how this state continues to attack our rights to reproductive healthcare. There is NO scientific or legitimate reasoning for this legislation to exist outside of warped, twisted, unethical biases within our state government.

Jill Oliver

Self

Buda, TX

I absolutely support HB1280. What a wonderful bill! It is right and proper that should Roe vs Wade be overturned Texas would return to the laws we had for Texas before the US Supreme Court opted to change a law already in place through judicial proceedings.

Barney Ash

self. Retired Iron Worker.

Springtown, TX

Certainly NOT and Hell, NO! There should be no denial to any woman anywhere to have access to medical care to bolster HER decisions regarding HER health and HER body. This is not 1840. Medicine and science have advanced to the point that coathanger abortions, the chosen avenue of MEN, is no longer an option. With your proposed rule, coat hanger abortions will be the Norm...once again!

I know, the dying Republican Party longs for those days of yore when women were mere chattel, while men ruled their lives without regard for their worth nor humanity. I realize this is the goal of Greg Abbott, Dan Patrick, Ted freaking Cruz...but You, YOU are better than this. Abortion is the settled law and Constitutional right of every American woman. Only the vile and loathsome Cretans of the GOP would attempt to return to a long dead and hated system which relegated Women to a role better fitting a dog than your Mother, wife, or yourself!

Katherine McGovern

self

Dallas, TX

HB 1280: Trigger bill that would ban abortion in Texas upon Roe v. Wade being overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court. Texas is supposed to be a Democracy and part of the United States of America. Since when is it in the State of Texas' governmental interest to intrude on the private medical personal decision of a woman to terminate her pregnancy? It is not! This Bill is an attack on every Texas woman's ability to stand equal under the law. Vote NO!

Jessica Moreno

self, LCSW

Austin, TX

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My name is Jessica Moreno and I write to oppose House Bill 1280. For over 15 years I too have worked as a public servant for nonprofits serving women, children, and teens to address domestic and sexual violence in our state. Too often I've witnessed cases of coercion and rape that led to unintended pregnancies, and we know that pregnancy in can elevate violence in the context of a domestic violence relationship. To pass HB 1280 would not only put women's lives at more risk, it would also force women to keep pregnancies at a time when many of their rights have already been violated. Keeping a pregnancy should never be your choice as legislators; it should always be an individual's choice.

HB 1280 is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Getting an abortion in Texas is already difficult as it is. To jump through these hoops after a sexual assault, or while in an abusive relationship is even more unrealistic, but even worse would be not having this option at all.

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families.

Women and medical experts have the lived experiences and education to provide recommendations on reproductive care, NOT legislators. It has been devastating to see my representatives chose to focus on divisive, personal views by passing this stream of anti-abortion bills rather than on issues that impact us all and need real attention like the welfare and education of the children that are already in this world. I write today to urge you to stop these harmful anti-abortion bills and leave choice where it belongs - the person who's uterus is impacted.

Laura Lewis, Mrs.

Self/Homemaker

Crosbyton, TX

America is the Greatest Nation on earth! Because of our reliance upon The Creator, He has granted us innumerable wealth! In areas of innovation, education, entrepreneurship and technological advancement. It seems obvious that we believe in a woman's right to be empowered! Empowerment means taking charge of one's own life including the human body! Empowerment means self control, preferably recognizing the value of abstinence! Technology has allowed us multiple forms of contraceptives for those who choose to engage in sexual activity but America is not lacking in means to prevent unwanted pregnancies! Because of this, there is absolutely no excuse to allow the legalization of abortions to continue! To do so fails to acknowledge our advancement! We can expect women to be in positions of power but not able to prevent themselves from becoming pregnant? Let's raise the bar and expect better!

Warren Harrsi

self

Dallas, TX

I think it is an abomination that a legislature comprised predominantly of conservative men has any business at all regulating women's reproductive rights. It is none of your business. Stay out of it. I guarantee at the next election I will be doing everything I can to get every possible Democrat to the polls to vote out anyone trying to limit women's rights in any way whatsoever.

Mary Veselka

Self

Webster, TX

Individual and. Dr. Choice only, not government or strangers.this should be legislated

Karen Kerr

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Self - Retired

Katy, TX

Abortion is murder of children. If you don't want children, use birth control. It's the 21st century and murdering unwanted children has no place here. It's not women's health, it's convenience and irresponsibility.

Eva Bonilla

Self

Fort Worth, TX

This should be up to God and the woman not Men

Laura Payet

-Self - legal writer

Austin, TX

Oh, come on, really?! This outrageous bill would ban abortions in almost every case if Roe v. Wade is overturned. Currently, it's obviously unconstitutional and is yet another example of pandering by our forced-birth legislative caucus. Imagine being forced to carry a fetus with a lethal diagnosis to term. Imagine being unable to obtain a necessary d&c following a missed miscarriage. Imagine it happening to your daughter, or your granddaughter. Do you even know what a missed miscarriage is? I do because I had one. If this bill had passed, I would have had to spend six months carrying a dead fetus. Once again, Texans need our legislature to get to work solving real problems that we face. Like funding the schools. How about sending some of that pandemic relief funding to the schools?

Sarah Payet

Self, Student

Austin, TX

What the hell is wrong with you?

Sonya Roberts

Myself

Wimberley, TX

Please vote no on this bill, women's health care should not be taken from us. This is a violation of our human rights. This will lead to many more domestic violence situations, murders, and unsafe healthcare. Please do not take our rights away.

Ricardo Martinez

Self

Austin, TX

My name is Ricardo and I oppose HR 1280. This is an extreme bill that would ban abortion in Texas with few exceptions in the case that Roe v Wade gets overturned, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. I trust doctors and Texans to make informed decisions together without the interference of politicians.

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BRIAN SANDLER
BLM, NAACP, SPLC
Arlington, TX

I have friends and family who desperately want to get pregnant who suffered unviable fetuses midway through. Forcing women to carry these to term would be despicable.

Barbara Baruch
Women, NCJW-SA
San Antonio, TX

What does the Committee intend to do about all of the unwanted children this bill will produce. Government has no business in a woman's private decisions with her doctor and her family. Why do you pay attention to anti-maskers, and anti-vaxers but ignore the overwhelming number of women who support the right of a woman to control her own body?

Tonya Cauduro
Self - Small Business Owner
Lewisville, TX

I oppose House Bill 1280 because a women must have the right to choose what happens to her own body. Please reject this legislation!

Renee Sabel
Self
San Antonio, TX

This is an outrageous criminalization of a legal procedure that the state of Texas has no right to regulate.

Natalie Levine
NCJW
San Antonio, TX

All bills relating to limiting access to abortions.

Sheryd Jackson
NCJW
San Antonio, TX

I oppose the state controlling women's sexual functions by prohibiting abortion in any manner. Since the 1960s states have imposed tighter and tighter restrictions without consideration of the child whose life might be made miserable by poverty lack of healthcare and poor education. All of these bills lack foresight. Will you care for the inborn?

Alheli Harvey
self; doctoral student
Austin, TX

This bill represents nothing but ongoing violence and discrimination toward women by regulating their bodies in the disguise of a moral argument. It is also transparently draconian in its punitive measures and scope. Seeking to punish patients and providers is nothing short of expanding an environment of intimidation and restriction. Infringing upon a woman's right to an abortion, her private and inalienable right to choose is undermined and undone. It is unconstitutional and makes people less free.

Rachel Martin

Self

Richardson, TX

You must not impose religious beliefs on the law. Abortion is a healthcare matter, between a woman and her doctor. You have no right to dictate what a woman can and cannot do based on personal morality. My body, my choice.

brian rogers

Law Office of Brian J. Rogers

Friendswood, TX

Oppose this bullshit.

Sheereen Ibtesam

Progress Texas

Fort Worth, TX

Abortion is safe.

Abortion is necessary.

Abortion is a right.

Abortion is health care.

Stop your unconstitutional bill nonsense.

Stop trying to criminalize women for making their own choices on their bodies.

This bill is disgusting and needs to be thrown out.

It's women's bodies women's choices.

Alice Perloff, Ms

Self

San Antonio, TX

All of these Bills deprive a woman the right to choose whether to have control over her own body or to give that right to the State. The State of Texas give people the right to refuse to wear a face mask that would protect them and other citizens from contracting Covid . The Governor has issued an executive order that bans any business or government office from requiring a person to show proof of a Covid vaccine stating it infringes on a person's personal freedom and also their medical information.
HPOCRITES

Ana Rodriguez

Self

Houston, TX

My name is Ana Rodriguez, I am submitting written testimony against HB 1280.

HB 1280 is an extreme legislation would make virtually all abortions illegal in Texas if the Supreme Court strikes Roe v. Wade or

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a Constitutional Amendment is ratified to allow states to prohibit abortions and would subject doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This policy is so extreme and cruel that it makes no exceptions for an abortion including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family, and while the bill does make an exception for the life of the patient, it callously makes the explicit point that a patient becoming suicidal due to an unwanted pregnancy is not enough of a threat to their life to trigger the exception.

Additionally, the extreme criminal penalties against abortion providers, including first degree felony charges and civil penalty to be collected by the Attorney General of not less than \$100,000, would wildly criminalize healthcare providers for providing essential healthcare.

Politicians have no right to impose their personal beliefs on everyone in our state.

This extreme policy goes against Texans values. Everyone should have the freedom and ability to chart their own path and make decisions about healthcare that are best for them. When Texans can make decisions that are best for their lives, families thrive and we build healthier communities where each of us can participate with dignity.

I urge the committee to vote against HB 1280.

HASNA SHARIF, ms

self

Austin, TX

I am pro-choice because women/people are the only ones who can decide what to do with their bodies. The government shouldn't have a say in someone's personal choices. It's not just a black and white concept, and i hope to show people the importance of that.

women have a moral right to decide what to do with their bodies

the right to abortion is vital for gender equality

the right to abortion is vital for individual women to achieve their full potential

banning abortion puts women at risk by forcing them to use illegal abortionists

the right to abortion should be part of a portfolio of pregnancy rights that enables women to make a truly free choice whether to end a pregnancy

Bodily rights

Many people regard the right to control one's own body as a key moral right. If women are not allowed to abort an unwanted foetus they are deprived of this right.

The simplest form of the women's rights argument in favour of abortion goes like this:

a woman has the right to decide what she can and can't do with her body

the foetus exists inside a woman's body

a woman has the right to decide whether the foetus remains in her body

therefore a pregnant woman has the right to abort the foetus

The issue brings many ideas about human rights into brutally sharp focus.

every human being has the right to own their own body

a foetus is part of a woman's body

therefore that woman has the right to abort a foetus they are carrying

The important US Supreme Court decision in Roe v Wade to some extent supported that view when it ruled that a woman's right to terminate her pregnancy came under the freedom of personal choice in family matters and was protected by the 14th Amendment of the US Constitution.

Erin Ozment

Self

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Lubbock, TX

I urge you to not allow this bill to pass. The criminalization of abortion only furthers the gender gap between man and women. The government does not have a place in a woman's body and should not be regulating healthcare that pertains to only one sex. This bill will only hurt women and will lead to the rise in the maternal mortality rate. As a state in the U.S it is embarrassing for this bill to even be proposed. To talk about freedom and then limit the healthcare we are able to receive is very hypocritical. This bill is about controlling women and nothing else. Also, I disapprove that any man can propose and vote on a bill that will never effect them. If you don't have a uterus, you don't have the right to regulate them!

kylie quintana

self

fort worth, TX

keep abortion safe and legal. it's no ones business what a woman does with her body besides herself and her doctor! let's not move backwards with outdated laws put into place by 90 year old men....

Christina Guntee

Self

Coppell, TX

As a Texas citizen I reject this extreme legislation. This legislation along with the other five are all oppressing women and their rights to their reproductive system. Creating a criminal offense for women who have an abortion is outrageous. Making abortions illegal and a criminal offense will not stop abortions from occurring. All it will do is result in more women deaths, be it by attempted self abortions or suicide. As a woman this is absolutely terrifying to me. I am married and on birth control as we do not want to children and birth control is not 100% effective. If these legislations were to pass I would not feel safe living in the state of Texas.

Kat Beam

Self

Wimberley, TX

My name is Kat and I oppose House Bill 1280. This bill is not Pro-Life, it is Pro-Birth. For if life is really to be considered, you would understand a mother/fathers life is just as important, if not more than that of an zygote. As a fertile woman who could have children when she so chooses this bill impacts me directly. I want a choice, I deserve a choice and I will always have a choice. A bill such as this will force many to take actions that will undoubtedly kill or render themselves infertile. Religion has no say on my body, to use any form of religious text or belief does not warrant a lawmaker personal bias on me. I have freewill to choose when to be sexually active, to use the protection I find best for my body, including having an abortion if my birth control fails. Having an abortion three years ago has allowed me to grow into a meritorious wife, Aunt, sister and employee. I have no regrets in my decision, especially because it was done in a safe and healthy manner. Forcing this bill and removing healthy access to abortion for anyone at anytime, will create more death than life. I urge you to not sign this bill. I implore you not to sign this bill. I beseech you not to sign this bill. Please do not sign this bill.

Abigail OConnor

Self

Austin, TX

I oppose this bill

Amanda Ortiz

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Lockheed Martin

Austin, TX

I oppose making abortion a criminal offense. As Texas has the highest rate of teen pregnancies, and with studies showing that when abortion is banned, self performed abortions go up, which will lead to more injuries and deaths of mothers, than if abortion is ALLOWED, Texas needs to allow abortion, or texas' girls will be finding ways to do abortions themselves with hangers. Do you want babies killed by hangers or offered real medical support. I oppose criminalization of abortion!

Hannah Margolis

National Council ;of Jewish Women

San Antonio, TX

Truly opposed

Dawn Bozeman

self, outside sales

COLDSRING, TX

There are too many abortions happening on a daily basis - so much in fact that it's the #1 killer in the US. God will continue to watch and see, and then will continue to punish us for turning our backs on Him - our creator....

Jennifer Madrid, Ms..

self

Belton, TX

Dear Public Health Committee,

I will soon email my public testimony from last legislative session, but here I will share my thoughts on this bill, HB1280. Last session, I spoke publicly about the devastating effects of my abortion at age 19 after rape. The rape impacted me severely, but not nearly as severely as the abortion. I did not as a teenager deserve to be told that taking my babies life was the appropriate response to having been raped. One crime did not cancel out the other and only left me with devastating guilt, sorrow, and serious health issues which affect me still...more than 30 years later.

I also spoke here at the capitol last session with 40 women who shared how abortion had devastated our lives and families. We unanimously agreed that **WE WOULD NEVER HAVE HAD THE ABORTION HAD IT BEEN ILLEGAL AND HAD WE FACED A PRISON SENTENCE**, and that **LEGAL ABORTION WAS A TRAP** into a life of guilt, shame, regret and devastation to our health and relationships. We **NEED** the penalty to deter us from this devastating trap, and the penalty for the mothers and others who assist them in taking their baby's lives should be the same as for any child as our law acknowledges their humanity from fertilization. As one of our Texas house members stated publicly in a hearing last week, "A law without penalty is no law at all, but a mere suggestion." I understand and sincerely appreciate the compassion most have for mothers in crisis pregnancy situations, but it is **MISPLACED** sympathy not to prosecute, with the potential for **MANY** unintended consequences. Children born and unborn should be treated equally. Do "the least of these" not deserve the same 14th amendment protection as any child or adult? They are human, too.

I would also plead with you not to codify the unconstitutional court opinion of Roe V. Wade into our Texas law. We cannot wait for a rogue court to right its own wrongs. It hasn't in nearly 50 years and shows little will left to uphold the constitution in this hour. It was not established to create law, but to uphold the constitution, just as the states were never intended to be subjects of the federal government, but were granted the power to create their own laws in the 10th amendment. Texas has sworn an oath to uphold the constitution which demands our citizens be protected and given due process before their lives are taken from them. Our laws also state that pre-born children are, in fact, people. Do they not deserve our protection? Can the states defy the federal government on marijuana and immigration, but not on the issue of life itself? Fellow members of the Texas house have very

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recently publicly declared that they would defy the federal government if it attempted to trample our right to bear arms, but yet we are silent and complacent when it comes to our children and their right to even live. Please remove the portion of the bill that ties us to a tyrannical court opinion over the lives of our precious children.

Kara Long

Self

Katy, TX

You and your wife are expecting a beautiful baby. Your baby dies in utero, and turns toxic. Your wife is sick and dying. You can't save her life, because it is illegal to remove a dead baby from her uterus. This is going to wreck beautiful families and kill mothers. This is effectively criminalizing becoming pregnant, because if things go wrong, a doctor won't be able to save these women. I had a miscarriage myself, and the doctor never could tell me why. You are criminalizing something that we don't really have the ability to know if what happened was a crime or an accident.

Berenice Craig

not applicable

Austin, TX

Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. For people who pride themselves on personal freedoms, it is true hypocrisy to take away the most essential right of a woman to bring a child into the world when she is able, as the burden will fall on her to grow, birth, educate and care for that child for the subsequent 18 years and beyond.

Audrey Watters

Self

Waco, TX

I oppose this bill. This is too far reaching. It imposes on a woman's right to choose medical care, forces a choice of pregnancy (whether viable or not), or being criminally prosecuted. Banning abortion in HB 1280 is too one-sided and is specifically targeting the woman. What is needed is a bill that prevents unwanted pregnancies, therefore reducing the number of abortions. Ban advertising for erectile dysfunction medication, make birth control readily available at a reduced price, fund vasectomies, tubal ligations, provide education in public schools in how to prevent pregnancy.

Ling Zhu

self

Ling Zhu, Austin, TX, TX

I totally oppose this bill. One in four women will have abortion. What will they do? The bill will return us back to old days when rich women traveled to abortion friendly countries to get the abortion done; and poor women, especially women of color, had to carry the unwanted fetus to term then put for adoption. Our state has terrible public education system. many of these unwanted babies have grown up without skills required to get good jobs, causing troubles to the society. Countless women had died during abortion in back alley before abortion was legalized.

Mabel Terminel

Self

El Paso, TX

Opposed to this gross overreach of government authority over women's bodies and autonomy

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Sarah Preston

self, student

Houston, TX

If LiFe BeGiNs At CoNcEpTiOn, why don't fetuses get frequent flyer miles? You define personhood only as it is politically convenient to push an evangelical-based agenda. And your refusal to care for people who have actually been born shows that you don't care about improving or saving any lives, you only care about controlling women. I guess naming that doesn't change your minds, because you are a bunch of shameless, spineless losers who don't care about your constituents.

I hope I never get pregnant, because if I do, it will be the result of rape. And if I still live in Texas (though I'm definitely getting the hell out as soon as I'm done with undergrad) at the time, I will be forced to carry a reminder of the most traumatic time of my life for nine months, and then I'll either have to support that reminder for 18 years (and more, because I'm not the kind of asshole who would evict a child at 18) or place a child into the foster care system that you refuse to fix. (Unless I kill myself first.

Honestly, I'd consider it if I ever got pregnant... crazy how you pro-birth zealots don't seem to care about the mental or physical or emotional health of the mother.) How is that fair to a child? How would that be fair to me? I'd have to drop out of school, postpone grad school for over a decade, and put my entire life on hold. (And don't ask what the fetus would think about being aborted--it wouldn't give a shit, because fetuses can't think at 6 weeks.)

I'm originally from Tennessee, and I am ashamed to be a Tennessean because its government is so regressive and restricting. And now I'm embarrassed to be a Texan, because somehow you all are even worse. Good lord.

margaret burke

self, venue manager

austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill.

Rebecca Bowers

Self / Accountant

Fort Worth, TX

It is a woman's right to choose what is done with her body. It is not the right of the state to dictate a human beings choices regarding their own reproduction. Just like it would not be right to dictate a man get a vasectomy.

Briana Miles

Self, Community Organizer

Sugar Land, TX

Hi my name is Briana Miles and I oppose HB 1280

This bill is so extreme that it makes essentially no exceptions for an abortion, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. Denying access to abortion care has a lasting impact on the patient and their family. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term compounds existing economic hardships and significantly increases the odds of the patient and her children living in poverty. Each Texan deserves the right to decide what is best for themselves and their families. The decision to have an abortion is a personal medical decision that involves a person and their doctor not Texas State legislators. I urge those reading this to vote in opposition to HB 1280.

Jasmine Tolhurst

Texas Democratic Women of Galveston County and myself, Senior at UHCL, president of both the Omicron Delta Kappa and Move Texas UHCL student org chapters

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Dickinson, TX

Opposed. Abortions should be a decision between a woman and her doctor and should be an option to her. No one should dictate a woman's life choices. God invites us all into communion with the understanding we are all sinners and will forever be sinners falling short of his glory. If these decisions are based on the legalism of certain religions that directly violates separation of church and state. Our laws should be based on research and facts given by experts in their fields. Banning abortion is not aligned with what is best to support the mental health of women or families. Texas already does not want to help the children and families who already exist by saying social programs are too expensive and handouts. What do you plan on doing when there are even more children and women and families suffering? Women should be informed if every option available. Extra litigation and emotional and financial burdens on women is not right. You are taking away women's freedoms and her autonomy over her own body. Pro-birthing like you are advocating is Anti-freedom and it is unAmerican. Women should have the right to choose the healthcare option that is right for her. The choice to end a pregnancy is not up to the Texas Legislative body to decide for her.

Karl Holbert

Self

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 1280.

Monica Holbert

Self

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 1280. I am against the prohibition of abortion. I am against making getting or performing an abortion a criminal offense. I am against any civil penalty for getting or performing an abortion.

Darlene Holbert, Mrs

Self, retired

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 1280. I do not believe that abortion should be prohibited, nor that any civil or criminal penalty or charge should be incurred for getting an abortion or performing an abortion.

Lynn Stahl

National Council of Jewish Women

San Antonio, TX

We strongly oppose this draconian bill!

Burt Holbert, Mr

Self, student

Round Rock, TX

I am against HB 1280.

Regina Beavers

Self

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Eules, TX

Oppose

Amanda Moorhead

Self, OT

Lubbock, TX

I am very opposed to house bill 1280. All women should have access to safe abortion care. Stop attempting to restrict and criminalize this necessary medical care.

Madeline Oden

Self-Reporter

Temple, TX

This bill is unconstitutional and violates the humanitarian rights of women am Deeply against this bill, as well as the bills HB 1515, HB 2337/ SB 394, HB 2313/SB 802, HB 3218/ SB 1173, HB 3760/ SB 1647.

These bills do not benefit anyone, not even the babies the bills are claiming to protect. They are unjustly taking the rights away from families to privacy, proper and safe medical care, and a choice that should only affect that family and their doctors. As a believer in texas, a Christian, and a woman. I beg you to reconsider passing these bills.

Karen Kelley

self, Administrative

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 1280. Women's Healthcare is between her and her doctor.

Caitlin Flynt

Self

Da;;as, TX

My name is Caitlin Flynt, and I am writing to you in extreme opposition to House Bill 1280. HB 1280 is an extreme and inhumane bill that would ban abortion with nearly NO exceptions should Roe vs. Wade ever be overturned, and would also subject doctors to criminal and civil penalties for doing their jobs and providing essential healthcare to Texans.

House Bill 1280 is so extreme that it makes almost no exceptions for abortions, including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis which is unduly cruel to Texans. Forcing someone to carry a pregnancy to term creates a lifetime of pain and only serves to keep people locked in poverty.

Texans deserve the right to make the medical decisions that are best for them and their families, and the state does not get to tell us what to do with our bodies. Passing a sweeping ban on abortion like this undermines people's autonomy and morally reprehensible.

Access to abortion is a deeply personal issue to me, as someone who has had an abortion. I was young, poor, and absolutely not equipped for a lifetime of parenthood, and was able to make the choice that was right for myself and my husband. Because of that decision, I was able to pursue to prosperous life that I have today, but I know that if I had been forced to bear that pregnancy, I would still be struggling to make ends meet and might not even be here today. My abortion saved my life and gave me the wonderful, happy, love-filled life I have today. Denying Texans the ability to make decisions for themselves is wholly dehumanizing and wrong, and will only serve to outlaw safe abortions. People will still seek abortions, only dangerously and on their own, which will directly lead to death and suffering that in my opinion, you, as the legislators that have the power to reject this bill, would be ultimately responsible for.

House Bill 1280 is an unnecessarily extreme bill that will hurt Texans in ways that have life-long effects. I am urging you as a fellow Texan to reject this bill and vote NO on House Bill 1280.

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Anuradha Koli

Self

AUSTIN, TX

I am opposed to this bill because it is amoral, misogynistic and unconstitutional.

Ethan Wayland

self

McKinney, TX

Abortion is safe.

Abortion is necessary.

Abortion is a right.

Abortion is health care.

Nancy Crumpton

self; retired RN, MSN

Waxahachie, TX

As an advocate for the innocent unborn babies that cannot voice their opinion I want you to know that the great state of Texas doesn't want legislation like a heartbeat bill that's just going to end up being unenforceable. We've had 48 years of failures of pro-life bills like that—we want abolition NOW to stop the murder of more than 155 babies a day!! Be strong and stand up to the naysayers and evil ones that want to push abortion on every country in the world. **START BY ABOLISHING ABORTION IN THE STATE OF TEXAS TODAY. DO THE RIGHT THING!**

David Elam

Self, business owner

Rowlett, TX

Dear representatives,

While I appreciate your desire to diminish the number of abortions in our state, the only true remedy to save lives is to abolish abortion. As a proud life-long Texan, I urge you to hear HB 3326, which would abolish the barbaric, inhumane, and scientifically unconscionable practice of abortion. This must be done immediately. Saving a few more lives through regulation is not what our unborn children deserve. All life deserves to be protected from conception to natural death. Thank you for considering this important matter which is a very important issue to so many Texans. God bless you as you serve our people, including the pre-born.

Amy Portillo, Ms.

self, student

Richmond, TX

My body is not a political playground. Therefore, you do not get to take the choice of being able to get a safe abortion away from me. Abortion is healthcare. Abortions save lives, and they are completely necessary. Stop trying to make decisions for women. It's not your body, it's not your life, it's not your choice. Also, most women do not regret their abortions. And not only is a ban on abortions a violation of women's rights, it puts women's health, safety, and well being at risk. In conclusion, abortions are a necessity and a women's right, and abortions should never be made illegal.

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Denise reily

Self

Dallas, TX

This is a federally guaranteed right that the ignorant state of Texas cannot take away.

AJ Price, Mx.

self, sole proprietor of a business

League City, TX

I reject criminalizing the provision of health care and government overreach into private medical decisions.

Megan Baker

Self, childcare

Austin, TX

This bill makes no exceptions for situations of any kind, which is truly cruel. As a child advocate I believe in children's quality of life. I've seen far too much child abuse (including having been neglected as a child) to believe that every person who becomes a parent will be a good one. It's just not true; if it were we would have no need for CPS. This bill is cruel and disastrous for children, who have a right to be wanted when they come into the world!

Maggi Carter, Ms.

Self/retired

Beaumont, TX

Abortion is a personal medical decision not to be determined by the state of Texas.

Fallon Wright, Mrs.

Myself

Houston, TX

This is a violation of my constitutional rights.

Cheryl Maben

Myself

Burleson, TX

This is the United States of America. We are supposed to have Separation of Church and State. We are supposed to be home of the free. Freedom for all and not just men and Christians. Freedom is not free when dictated by one set of beliefs. Please stop making women out to be criminals. Stop this persecution of women and allow them to seek council with their doctors. Stop threatening doctors for trying to save a woman's life. Stop this horror show and let freedom ring for all not just men and Christians.

Mary OConnell

Self

Austin, TX

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STOP IT with these asinine bills!! ABORTION IS LEGAL HEALTHCARE!!

Melinda Westphal

Self

Friendswood, TX

Oppose this. Has no compassion for a woman's situation.

Harold Scott

Self

League City, TX

Oppose

Harold Scott

Self

League City, TX

Oppose

Harold Scott

Self

League City, TX

Oppose

Bleuenn Simon

Self

Houston, TX

Having been a clinic escort for two years, I have witnessed how much distress and fear abortion creates in women, and men who accompany them. Criminalizing abortion would only put an unfair burden on people who already had to take one of the hardest decisions in their life. Abortion isn't going to magically disappear if it's made an offense; women are still going to try and abort, without medical or psychological counsel. The compassionate and efficient approach is through prevention and professional help.

James D'Souza

Self, Project Manager

Bastrop, TX

I am grateful for the opportunity to submit my comments on this issue, and I do so humbly and respectfully. God creates children in the womb in His own image (Psa 139:13-16; Gen 1:26-28). This places intrinsic dignity and value on the life of every human being. The difference between a baby being located inside versus outside of the womb is a matter of inches. Location should have no bearing on whether it is considered murder to terminate a pregnancy, whether pre-delivery or post-delivery. Murder is murder, wherever you do it. Please protect these little people who cannot protect themselves by providing a civil penalty and creating a criminal offense to reflect the intrinsic uncivil and criminal nature of abortion. It is murder, plain and simple. I ask our public servants to please fulfill your duty to protect the lives of these most vulnerable little people. Thank you.

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Christine Van Hoozer

Self/woman

San Antonio, TX

Abortion is a civil right

William Ripley

Self, Fireman

Sherman, TX

My name is William Ripley from Sherman

I'm against this bills as written; House Bill 1280 because it is not in effect until Roe v Wade is overturned. It perpetuates the idea that Roe is the law of the land.

I'm also against this bill because it regulates abortion rather than abolishing the murder of preborn babies. It doesn't offer equal protection for unborn persons.

The Texas Constitution says "Texas is a free and independent state subject only to the constitution of the united states".

The Fifth Amendment of the US Constitution says, in part, "no person shall be deprived of life liberty or property without due process of law". Do we believe all that?

If that's not enough God says that we were formed in our mother's womb. We are made In His Image. Do we believe that?

As a pro-life advocate in Sherman and an ABORTION clinic sidewalk counselor in Dallas. I have helped a handful of people as part of a team. I'm asking you to be part of that team that ends abortion in Texas this year.

Not long ago it was legal to own people in our country. And brave people working on the front lines and in legislature were able to abolish that evil. People defied those immoral laws and the Dred Scott Supreme Court decision for a Godly cause.

I encourage you to change the wording to make this a true abolition bill or support the legislation already filed by Bryan Slayton, HB3326 and HB3641, that defies Roe v. Wade and abolishes abortion.

Many states are currently defying federal law for recreational marijuana. Aren't 55,000 preborn Texans per year worth the good fight?

If these bills had teeth, there would be a line of Pro-choice protesters here. They are absent.

Thr founders of Texas were bold and courageous. I encourage my legislators to be the same.

I leave you with these words of encouragement Moses given to Joshua." Be strong and courageous" ... "the Lord is the one who goes ahead of you he will be with you He will not fail or forsake you do not fear or be dismayed". (Deuteronomy 31:7-8)

Karen Gebert

kkge

Grand Prairie, TX

All of these bills are to criminalize something against women. You don't know what a woman is having to deal with in her own body, that you should pass judgement. You call yourselves Christians, but you demonize the name. You are only interested in control. Control of Women. And not one of these will criminalize how a woman got pregnant. Men are only interested in

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controlling women, demonizing them.

You have no right to decide what a woman has to do. You have no right to rule a woman's body. You do not know what is going on. This is a very private and emotional moment for a woman. Get out of our bodies!

Karen Gebert

GEORGIA Scott

Mom

Pe, TX

End abortion now

Elizabeth Adams, LPC-A

Self, counselor

Roanoke, TX

My name is Ellie Adams and I oppose House Bill 1280. Those seeking an abortion deserve to have bodily autonomy and have their decisions respected. This bill is so damaging to individuals who need an abortion. Lack of access to this procedure in the face of horrible circumstances such as a lethal fetal diagnosis can create a large amount of trauma for the pregnant person. No one should be forced to carry a baby to term. Texans deserve to make the best decisions for their own lives without the government impeding their access or dictating what they can and cannot do with their bodies. Abortion can be a life saving procedure and needs to be protected. Oppose HB 1280. This bill is unconstitutional and damaging to the greater good of Texas residents.

Jessica Stepinoff

self, office manager

DALLAS, TX

prohibiting abortion and penalizing me if I were to opt for one is an attack on my religious liberties and rights as a Satanist. The Satanic Temple is a federally recognized religion and has 7 Tenets core to its religious rituals. Tenet 3 states "One's body is inviolable, subject to one's own will alone." and Tenet 5 states "Beliefs should conform to one's best scientific understanding of the world. One should take care never to distort scientific facts to fit one's beliefs." Currently science cannot prove the existence of a "soul" so when personhood begins is a matter of subjective personal belief. Christians and others who want to deny my bodily autonomy based on their anti-scientific beliefs is a clear violation of my civil rights and religious liberties.

Dave Mitchell, Mr.

self

Houston, TX

Good morning. I'm writing to encourage and exhort my representatives to take a stand and make Texas a state that affirms the value and dignity of human life from the moment of conception.

The unborn child is a unique human being, with her own unique DNA, distinct from her parents'. She is not a blob of tissue or a mere collection of cells. From the moment of conception, the unborn child's cells are totipotent, carrying within themselves the complete blueprints to develop into a fully-formed human being, if given the time, nutrition, and protection necessary. In time, the child will develop her own nervous system, internal organs, blood type, fingerprints. All of the hallmarks of a unique and precious individual are there in the womb within the space of mere weeks. If we claim to be a society that "believes in science" and affirms the inherent rights of human beings, then it is hypocritical to dismiss the scientific reality of an unborn child's humanity at any stage of development or to allow the decisions of others to make the life of that unborn child discardable.

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As a unique human being, each unborn child has been endowed by his or her Creator with inalienable rights recognized under the United States Constitution, including the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To allow the mother or another individual to make the decision to end the life of that child denies those rights. Not only is such a premeditated act of violence tantamount to murder, ending the life of a distinct human being, but it is a clear instance of social injustice. If Texas is going to be a state that protects the rights of its citizens, it must begin doing so at the very earliest stage of existence.

Finally, I call on my state government to recognize that every unborn child, no matter the circumstances of their conception, is made in the image of Almighty God. From the moment of conception, they have been knit together in their mothers' wombs, intricately woven in secret, as the Psalmist poetically described it. Every person is an image bearer of God, no matter their age, stage of development, level of ability or disability, ethnicity, economic circumstances, sex, or location. Every person deserves dignity and respect. Every person has the God-given right to be born.

It is the duty of this state and its leaders to protect and defend the rights of its citizens against injustice and premeditated violence. Friends, we have failed to do so when it comes to our youngest, most innocent, and most vulnerable citizens. I plead with you, in the name of Jesus Christ, to consider this, and to ask yourself if we really want to be a people that denies the basic humanity of others, and treats human beings like objects to be owned or discarded at the whim of another. May it not be so. May it never be so in the state of Texas.

Thank you for your time and attention. Know that I and my family will be praying for you.

Maria Koegl, Mrs.

Self - Operations Manager of a non-profit

Watauga, TX

My husband, Mychael, met me at my OBGYN's office two years ago today. I will call her "Dr W". Once she began the anatomy scan, she fell silent. She instructed we would immediately be going to see a specialist for a more in-depth ultrasound. Mychael asked if they took our insurance. She snapped "it doesn't matter, you are going." He then tried to pry out what was wrong, but she didn't want to confirm or deny anything without obtaining all the information she could.

The Dr. conducted the ultrasound. He thoroughly explained everything in a calm and comforting tone as I asked poignant questions through those weird gasps for air you make when you are attempting not to sob. No glance at Mychael, who was sitting next to me, was needed to know his heart was breaking - it was palpable. He lost the only chance he had at a son.

I collected myself the best I could, looked the Dr. directly in the eyes, and asked "so we terminate the pregnancy, correct?" Of course, he cannot advise this and frankly I don't think they are allowed to even bring it up as an option, but once I did and asked the question - he gave me every single piece of data and science he had to offer. We were confident in the decision. He left to call Dr. W.

When we left the exam room the Dr. informed me that Dr. W would meet me at L&D immediately. I was 20 weeks 6 days pregnant, there was literally no time to spare.

Once in the room it was not until that moment, as I put on those yellow socks, that I realized - I have to go through labor and delivery. I would be going through all the steps that brought me my daughter two years prior. I have to do all the things, but this time, no one comes home with us. But abortion is so convenient, isn't it?

Dr. W met us in the room. She held my hand and told me to ask anything I needed. We confirmed all the answers and decisions. Finally breaking the forced composure I had maintained for the past several hours, "is he going to be in pain?", I asked while fulling gasping for air between each word. Dr. W assured me, he would not. That was all I needed to know. I was protecting my son. My first and final decision for his life was to ensure only I had to suffer the pain.

Time moves differently in a hospital, but I know it was between 2-4 that Connor was born. I held his little body. Felt his little hand. I booped the little nose I would never see again, whispering love and affection into his deaf ears. He knew I loved him.

Eventually Dr. W carried Connor away to be blessed by the hospital Chaplin.

I had an abortion, because I loved my son. The choice was between me, my husband, my medical team, and whatever higher

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power I chose to consult. The Texas House does not belong in that decision.

Cristina San Martin

Self

Cypress, TX

This is dangerous and inhumane for all people who can get pregnant. No one should be forced to breed by their government. Period.

Joan Edelstein

Self (Textile Artist)

Austin, TX

I am completely opposed to this bill and any bill which, in my opinion, tries to control unfairly women's rights re reproductive health and choice.

virginia hurley, mrs

self/teacher

Pflugerville, TX

I am FOR this bill!

Kayla Perez

Self

San Antonio, TX

My name is Ms. Perez and I oppose House Bill HB1280

This bill is unconstitutional.

You are aware of the implications of how this will harm Texans.

It is a violation of bodily autonomy.

You are chose not to listen and legislate by empirical and tangible evidence.

Texas should not be violating human rights.

Donna` Lipman

self

Austin, TX

I oppose. Stop your antics.

Donna Lipman

self

Austin, TX

I oppose. Stop your antics. If you were worried about criminal offenses, how about taking care of the kids who are already here???

Mary Ambrose

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self

Austin, TX

I wish to comment and voice my concern about several bills intended to restrict access to, criminalize, and otherwise harm people seeking the provision of an abortion in Texas, including HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218, HB 1173 and HB 3760. Individually and as a whole these bills would have harmful impacts for people seeking an abortion and disempower these individuals from making decisions about their own life and well-being. Instead of shaming and criminalizing individuals seeking abortion through legislative attack, elected officials should be aspiring to make changes that align with the values and improve the well-being of their constituents. Polling by the Texas Politics Project in February 2021 found that 55% of Texans believe that abortion laws should either be less strict or left as they are now, compared to 32% that believe they should be more strict (<https://texaspolitics.utexas.edu/set/should-abortion-laws-be-more-or-less-strict-february-2021>). Proposed bills that further restrict access to abortion such as HB 1515, HB 1280, HB 2337, HB 2313, HB 3218, HB 1173 and HB 3760 do not line up with the opinion of most Texans and would cause unnecessary harm to individuals seeking an abortion and I urge you not to support these proposals.

Arline Kwastel, Mrs

NCJW

San Antonio, TX

No bill should be passed restricting women's rights to abortion

Corlie Jackson

Province 7 AntiRacism Network

Galveston, TX

OPPOSE!! MY BODY, MY CHOICE. This smacks of Muslim Sharia Law.Plus given all the sexual molestation, it deprives the woman right to abort a pregnancy of rape

Peggy Williams

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I approve of this bill. Babies lives matter and they need to be defended

brandie baker

Self

austin, TX

I would like to oppose HB 1280.

Bill Roberts

Self

Driftwood, TX

Please pass this bill. It is sorely needed to give the least powerful among us a chance at life.

Brian Gutierrez

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self

Austin, TX

I completely disagree with making abortion a criminal offense or civil penalty of any sort.

Amanda Rider

Self Homemaker

Friendswood, TX

Oppose

Leah Krumholz

Self, Social Media Writer

Austin, TX

This bill is NOT about protecting life; it's about controlling women. Criminalizing abortion puts a woman's life at risk and takes away her right to choose what happens to her body. Since a fetus is not a separate entity from its mother and cannot sustain life outside of the uterus, it should NOT be granted more rights to autonomy than the mother carrying it. Just as you cannot force a person to donate blood or organs against their will, even for the purpose of saving another's life, you should not be able to force a woman to carry to term a pregnancy she does not want and/or one that would put her health at risk. I fear for every Texas woman's wellbeing if this bill comes to pass. Instead of outlawing abortion, which further puts the mother's life at risk if they decide to self terminate a pregnancy, it would be more advantageous to make access to birth control and sex education affordable and accessible, as doing so would decrease the number of abortions performed.

Andrew LeCody

self - Senior Engineer

Carrollton, TX

Laws that limit access to health resources, remove a person's ability to make decisions for themselves or create a chilling effect on the providers of these services is immoral and unconstitutional. Pregnancy, whether intentional or accidental, is a purely personal experience and no one has claim to a woman's body but herself. Stripping a person of their bodily autonomy by masquerading it as compassion is a vile and uniquely evil form of oppression.

Bodily autonomy, self determination, self defense, and other human rights must never be infringed. I oppose HB 1280 and any similar bill.

Neesha Dave, Ms.

Lilith Fund

Austin, TX

We oppose HB 1280.

HB 1280 is extreme legislation would make virtually all abortions illegal in Texas if the Supreme Court strikes Roe v. Wade or a Constitutional Amendment is ratified to allow states to prohibit abortions and would subject doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions.

This policy is so extreme and cruel that it makes no exceptions for an abortion including in the case of a lethal fetal diagnosis, which can be a heart-breaking situation for any family. While the bill does make an exception for the life of the patient, it callously makes the explicit point that a patient becoming suicidal due to an unwanted pregnancy is not enough of a threat to their

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life to trigger the exception.

Additionally, the extreme criminal penalties against abortion providers, including first degree felony charges and civil penalty to be collected by the Attorney General of not less than \$100,000, would wildly criminalize healthcare providers for providing essential healthcare.

Politicians have no right to impose their personal beliefs on everyone in our state.

Texans believe that everyone should have the freedom and ability to chart their own path and make decisions about healthcare that are best for them. When Texans can make decisions that are best for their lives, families thrive and we build healthier communities where each of us can participate with dignity.

We urge the committee to oppose HB 1280.

Joe Pojman, Dr.

Texas Alliance For Life

Austin, TX

Testimony of Joe Pojman, Ph.D.
House Public Health Committee
Supporting House Bill 1280
April 7, 2021

My name is Dr. Joe Pojman. I am the Executive Director of Texas Alliance for Life, and we support House Bill 1280, the Human Life Protection Act.

HB 1280 is a complete ban on abortion, beginning at fertilization, that will go into effect when and to the extent the Supreme Court reverses or modifies *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*.

The Supreme Court's terrible precedent in the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* and 1992 *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* decisions ties the hands of the Legislature. It prevents you from banning abortion or imposing any abortion regulation that creates a "substantial obstacle to the woman's effective right to elect the procedure" before viability of the unborn child. Viability is when the unborn child can continue to live if born alive.

However, within a matter of months, the Supreme Court may change that terrible precedent.

If the Supreme Court changes its precedent and allows states to protect non-viable unborn babies, Texas needs to be ready with a new law to ban abortion to the extent allowable under the new precedent.

House Bill 1280 is that new law.

Under HB 1280, any person who performs an abortion (except to save the mother's life) commits a first-degree felony. Any woman on whom an abortion is performed or attempted may not be prosecuted.

We need to protect unborn babies beginning at fertilization. Science recognizes that an unborn child is a human being, just like each of us. The life of an individual human being begins at fertilization and continues to develop through each of the 40 weeks of pregnancy, through birth, infancy, childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. We all came into being at fertilization. That is established biological fact. When people say, "listen to the scientists," my organization agrees 100%.

Our statutes and rules in Texas recognize that life exists in the womb and begins at fertilization. We have numerous provisions that reflect that.

Perhaps the most striking is the protection afforded to unborn children in our state from violent crimes of assault and murder in the Penal Code. Chapter 1 defines an "individual" as a "human being that is alive, including an unborn child at every stage of gestation from fertilization until birth."

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Relying on that, Chapter 19 protects an unborn child from homicide, taking the life of the unborn child against the mother's consent the same as a newborn child, indeed, the same as all of us.

HB 1280 is a natural extension of that law.

In 2019, there were about 57,000 reported abortions in Texas. It is estimated that at least 10% of those abortions – 6,000 or more – were performed before six or seven weeks of gestation, before the unborn baby's heartbeat can be detected.

Texas has an obligation to protect all unborn children, even very early in pregnancy.

House Bill 1280 will do just that, and we urge you to support it.

Shontinique Kay

self, grad student

San Antonio, TX

How can there be a law to criminalize abortion, when it is so hard to get convictions for the wrongful deaths of people of color? It's like you want to make people go through with pregnancies just so that you treat their children poorly when they arrive to this unfair world.

john brenneis

Catholic War Veterans

lubbock, TX

go

LeRoy Whitman

self / Linguist - Bible Translator (indigenous language)

Denton, TX

I find myself in the awkward position of being AGAINST this "Trigger" bill, HB 1280. It is awkward, because - I want to be clear I am FOR the criminalization of the homicide of abortion, and not for civil fines, but for prosecution as a criminal act, especially for the abortionist who cuts up the living child (in one form or another). This is even against the Hippocratic Oath that has been a standard even since the pagan Greeks, often summarized as, "First, do no harm." With respect to abortion in modern America, the innocent child is often forgotten as a factor at all, or discounted because of his or her size. Even Dr. Suess got it right here, having Horton (our Elephant in the room!) say, "A person's a person, no matter how small."

America's house is on fire in the corner bedroom, and we in the office and living room area arguing about how to best take care of the smoke, because the big Dad (federal-level Supreme Court) has locked the flimsy door, so we can do nothing about the cause, but must simply deal with the arsonists who insist the right to keep playing with matches and smoking in bed.

To the bill: It says abortion will be criminalized as soon as Daddy decides to put out the fire. Until then, the other adults in the room (the states) will punish the children who even try to put out the growing blaze, because Dad is always right, and might get angry if they do anything about either the fire itself or the arsonists that live in the other rooms of the large dwelling.

This Trigger Bill - I agree - says abortion should be treated as a criminal act. My disagreement - and the reason I oppose this bill as it currently stands - is that it awaits the US Supreme Court deciding that Roe (with Doe) and Casey v. PP, and many dozens of other cases that use these (and the prior non-existent "right to privacy" magically "discovered" in the Constitution from the Griswold opinion, before Roe). But absent a state directly challenging the Roe holding by passing a law that contradicts Roe directly, or prosecuting the act of murder in abortion and standing on their authority under law, there will be no case for the US Supreme Court to review that will bring Roe into question. The US Supreme Court is not a legislative body. They only review

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cases. They cannot unilaterally change a prior precedent. They must have someone or some legal entity act in accordance with law under the Constitution. There is nothing clearer, especially with 4D ultrasounds and in vitro fetal surgery available today, than that deliberately taking the life of the individual person in the womb is first degree homicide. Call it feticide, if you want, it is still the same crime of killing a fellow human being.

In Texas, 55,000 are killed each year; 110,000 between each Legislative Session. Say 110,000 police officers were killed between each session. Would the state's response be that we must await the US Supreme Court to change a ruling that they may be killed? It is no different.

Marilyn Hartman

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose any abortion law that is more restrictive than what is currently allowed under Roe vs. Wade. The laws being put forth are promulgated by legislators' personal religious beliefs without regard to the personal beliefs or difficult situations of the women or families involved. Government officials have no place in deciding what a woman faces who has to make one of the most difficult decisions of her life. In addition, the beliefs of those pushing these bills are not dictated by science, which indicates that a fetus is not a viable human being until later in the gestation period; there is also evidence that a fetus does not feel pain during the time when a fetus can be legally aborted.

Years ago, a woman who reported to me in the workplace had to make the decision to have an abortion. She and her husband already had two children and knew they could not support another, and yet she found herself pregnant. The decision to have an abortion was jointly made by the husband and wife; this decision was wrenching. This mother had considerable anguish, and yet, for her and her husband, it was the right decision. These decisions are highly personal, but to have made her carry an unwanted child to term is cruel and unusual punishment.

I'm old enough to have been a young woman in the days when abortions were not legal. Women resorted to all kinds of interventions to terminate unwanted pregnancies, including coat hangers, from which many became infected, sterile, or dead. This is not what we want to bring back. Unwanted pregnancies do happen, even with the best preventative measures, not to mention rape, incest and other unsavory happenings in which the woman has no control.

PLEASE DO NOT PASS THESE RADICAL ABORTION BILLS. YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO FOIST YOUR VALUES AND CONSCIENCE ON OTHERS; THEY HAVE THEIR OWN VALUES AND CONSCIENCE TO GUIDE THEM IN WHAT IS RIGHT FOR THEM. IT IS NOT YOUR BUSINESS, AND ABORTIONS ARE NOT MURDER UNDER CURRENT LAW.

Donna Lyons, Mrs

Self

Austin, TX

Please vote to protect the unborn as stated in this HB 1280
Thank you for serving our great State

Cheryl Cali

Self / homemaker

Victoria, TX

HB 1280 will only further seek to continue to regulate abortion as healthcare. We already have abortion in our state's homicide codes. Abortion is not health care, it is death care. Abortion ensures that the preborn baby dies without justice and having been guilty of no crime. This is the only form of homicide that our laws turn a blind eye to. I ask you to remove all exemptions from prosecution for abortion and criminalize abortion. Abortion is the unjust taking of human life - and it is done with the blessing and approval of the state of Texas when we continually regulate when, where, and how our preborn neighbors may be murdered within the confines of the law.

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Please defend all life, please interpose for all preborn babies in the state of Texas and bring justice for the 55,000 babies that we murder by consent.

Lionel Hillard

Consumer

Dallas, TX

HB 369 is a bill that takes a medical condition and makes it a criminal offense ,when this bill is slated to impact the under served community where health care is subpar to none, mental health issues due to the environment in which they reside. Education and trust within is limited due to past experiences seen and experienced in their community where simple issues were escalated to extreme because of prejudices in that communities . This bill should not go forward, it could be one of your love ones due to no control of their own.

Kailea Humphreys

Self

Dallas, TX

I support this bill and ask all members to do the same.

Pat Williams

Self

Cedar Park, TX

This allows individuals to take a stand based on moral and religious beliefs

Lauren Oden

Self

Austin, TX

If the "pro-life" senators & representatives actually CARED about lives, they would consider the heartbreaking difficulties and choices that can come with pregnancy.

They'd write bills in support of equal access to mental healthcare and temporary work leave for women who experience the worst news they could ever hear.

They'd stop seeking individual retribution and punishments for abortion providers and their patients, and work toward equal access to contraception and ACTUAL sex education across the state (& I say this as a Texas teacher who taught sex ed).

This bill is unconstitutional, cruel, and unhelpful in terms of lowering abortion rates and I urge the committees and state representatives to consider the actual good of their constituents - not the contents of their uteruses.

James Stanley

Self

Allen, TX

Laws that limit access to health resources, remove a person's ability to make decisions for themselves or create a chilling effect on the providers of these services, are immoral and unconstitutional. Pregnancy, whether intentional or accidental, is a purely personal experience and no one has claim to a woman's body but herself. Stripping a person of their bodily autonomy by

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masquerading it as compassion is a vile and uniquely evil form of oppression.

Bodily autonomy, self determination, self defense, and other human rights must never be infringed.

Andrea Ferrigno

Whole Woman's Health

McAllen, TX

My name is Andrea Ferrigno I am the Corporate Vice President at Whole Woman's Health. I am in opposition to House Bill 1280. We've seen firsthand what would happen if Roe v. Wade were overturned and abortions were banned in the state of Texas. In March and April of 2020, Governor Greg Abbott exploited the COVID-19 pandemic and signed an executive order that temporarily banned abortions. This placed providers and patients in a holding pattern, leaving people desperate as they sought out safe abortion care.

This bill would ban abortion in the state with few exceptions, while also subjecting doctors to criminal and civil penalties and disciplinary actions. Closing clinics and banning abortions do not stop pregnant Texans from obtaining abortions. Patients who called our clinics during the COVID-19 shutdown looked for alternatives. Many were forced to travel hundreds to thousands of miles to other states to legally obtain care.

In 2013 we experienced the trauma of not having access to safe and legal abortions throughout Texas when HB-2 passed. It is embarrassing to witness the proud state of Texas continually push its people away to other states to receive healthcare they should receive in their communities .

The ability to access abortion is a critical component of the health and dignity of every Texan. Major medical organizations like American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American Medical Association, and the American Academy of Family Physicians have affirmed that reproductive healthcare is essential to woman's overall health and access to abortions are an important component to reproductive healthcare.

Texas leaders need to allow people in this state to benefit from the best advancements in science and medicine. For all these reasons, I oppose House Bill 1280.

Mark Langer

Blue Cross Blue Shield

HOUSTON, TX

I am opposed to abortion in all cases except for rape and incest.

Connie Farley

SELF/ RETIRED

Streetman, TX

I submit Abortion be ILLEGAL in state of Texas and United States and punishable by law.

Ann Winer

Self

San Antonio, TX

Texans have the right to mask or go unmasked. They have the right to get vaccinated or not get vaccinated. Texan Women should have the right to make decisions about their bodies and their health with the assistance of licensed health care professionals. Whether to allow abortions or not is strictly a religious decision. There is no place in politics for this to be placed. In my religion,

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Judaism, life begins at first breath. I should be allowed to follow my religious beliefs just as you are. No one is forced to make this very difficult decision but, for Texas to place such strict rules only hurts women and predominantly the poor women who also suffer from lack of Medicaid expansion. You say you care about the unborn. How about those that are alive.

Ingrid Skop

self

San Antonio, TX

I am Dr. Ingrid Skop, a board certified ob/gyn from San Antonio. I am testifying on behalf of the myself and the unborn children of Texas.

In his concurrence on Roe v Wade, Supreme Court Justice Blackmon stated, “We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. When those trained in the respective disciplines of medicine, philosophy, and theology are unable to arrive at a consensus, the judiciary, at this point in the development of man’s knowledge, is not in a position to speculate.” This was feigned ignorance, and it allowed the Court to give “life” the most extreme definition possible, in pursuit of social goals. Over the past fifty years scientific knowledge has expanded dramatically. There is no scientific doubt that the fetus is a living human being from the moment of conception.

With fertilization, 46 unique human chromosomes result, different from that of either parent. This genetic blueprint will determine the characteristics of the person the embryo will become. The only thing necessary for his growth and development is oxygen, food, water, and a healthy interaction with his natural environment. A biomolecular communication system is established between the unborn human and his mother even before the time of implantation.

In my 29 years as an obstetrician, I have delivered over 5000 babies. I have never shown a woman an ultrasound and told her, “There is the electrical activity of your fetus.” She expects me to tell her, “There is your baby’s heartbeat”.

The early nervous system appears between days 12 and 17. By 21 days, the heart starts beating and pumping blood; by 30 days, arms, legs, and brain begin to form; and by 35 days, mouth, nose, and ears begin to develop. At this stage, he is the size and shape of a gummy bear, clearly recognizable as a human being.

Within 40 days, brain waves can be measured, and by 42 days, the skeleton and internal organs are present. By 8 weeks, hands, fingers and even fingerprints form; by 9 weeks he can be seen on the sonogram sucking his thumb; by 10 weeks, he squints, swallows, and frowns; by 12 weeks, he smiles and has intricate hand and feet movements.

This is not a complex question. From conception, the fetus is a living human; the Declaration of Independence states that all humans in our country have a right to life , and common morality agrees that it is wrong to kill an innocent living human being. Why have we allowed the fetus to become the only class of human whose life can be ended if another person desires it? It is time to right the wrong perpetuated on our country nearly 50 years ago and extend human rights to all humans, including those who temporarily reside in their mother’s uterus.

When Texas makes abortion illegal, it should also make it unthinkable. Let us prioritize the prevention of unintended pregnancies, the engagement of fathers, and the preservation of families, so that women can welcome thei

Jessica Timpson

Self, Social Work grad student

Austin, TX, TX

My name is Jessica and I write to oppose House Bill 1280. This bill interferes with the work of local public health officials and undermines abortion access for people in Texas already facing multiple barriers to this essential healthcare.

This bill, and others like it, continually serve to trigger and re-traumatize many people who have undergone legal abortion for various personal reasons. They do not actually solve the underlying, systemic problems that lead to many ending up requiring an abortion in the first place. As someone who became pregnant as a result of sexual assault, I find these bills at minimum to be a

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direct attack on my experience and others like me.

Texas has dozens of restrictions on abortion care that create systemic obstacles for people seeking abortion care. HB 1280 is a direct attack on the most marginalized people in Texas: Black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) communities, immigrants, LGBTQ+ people, low-income people, and youth.

For years Texans have struggled to access even the most basic healthcare, and COVID-19 has only added to those obstacles and pushed many to their financial limits. Many people are unemployed, have become full-time caregivers to children or elders, and are facing economic insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. At such a crucial moment, the state government should not be interfering with local leaders' ability to ensure the health and safety of their residents. For these reasons I oppose HB 1280.

Tina Hester

Retired

Austin, TX

Dear Chairwoman Klick and Members of the Committee,

Please focus your attention on matters such as expanding Medicaid for low-income people and getting more vaccines lined up for communities of color. These abortion bills do nothing to protect women and their families. They only seek to punish women who choose to make personal decisions.

Dawn Orand

Self

Round Rock, TX

Babies are people and should be protected from harm.
We have killed far too many babies and abortion should be stopped now.

Heather Gardner

Self

Austin, TX

We are all former embryos, former toddlers, former adolescents. We're all human and as such we should strive to protect all human life regardless of circumstances of conception. Thank you for this bill.

B. A. Douglass

Self

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose any regulation of a woman's body by government. Pregnant or not. Stay out of my and my doctor's concerns about my fertility, pregnancy, and life decisions. Period!

david singleton

self

austin, TX

It is never acceptable to kill an innocent life to solve a problem. I support this bill 100%

Jill Oliver

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self

Buda, TX

I ask that you vote in favor of HB 1280. Even Roe vs Wade acknowledged that if medical science deemed life to begin at conception that the ruling would no longer be able to stand. We now know that life does, indeed, begin at conception. The DNA code is complete at that time and the life is intrinsically human. It is far past time that the states push back to reinstate the laws that they had prior to the federal court, unconstitutionally taking it upon themselves to create a law and usurp the standards already set by the states.

Shirley Brinkman

Self

Austin, TX

Expressing support for HB1280

Christine Arroyo

self/retired

Austin, TX

I am in strong support of HB 1280.

A new and unique life is formed at conception and I believe it is wrong to terminate that life at any stage of development.

Science has now shown that abortion is not simply “removing a clump of cells.” It is actually “removing a developing human life” that already has a beating heart as early as three weeks. How can anyone who knows this take that life?

All women are emotionally damaged from abortion, and never forget they took the life of their baby. They know what they did was wrong and many suffer a lifetime of pain from the guilt.

Those women who choose to deny the reality of their abortion become hardened and bitter. Sadly, they're unable to experience all the true love and joy that life has to offer.

I am asking you to please vote yes to pass HB 1280 to stop this atrocity of abortion.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.