

To The House Human Services Committee and Chair,

I want to acknowledge our shared concern for the health and well-being of pregnant women and the unborn. This is a good and noble intent. I also recognize that this bill represents a compromise to a strict abortion ban, and I appreciate certain provisions, such as the removal of emotionally manipulative literature requirements and the extension of the time limit from six weeks to fifteen weeks. These are meaningful improvements toward ensuring informed and compassionate care.

However, I have serious concerns about the requirement for an “abortion approval committee.” While I appreciate that the language specifies the committee must be composed of doctors—ensuring that legal professionals do not interfere in medical decisions—I still believe this measure is an overreach. It compromises patient privacy and restricts the ability of a woman and her doctor to make timely, individualized healthcare decisions. Additionally, adding this extra layer of bureaucracy could delay critical care, potentially leading to serious health risks.

I urge the committee to reconsider this requirement and ensure that healthcare decisions remain where they belong—between a patient and their doctor. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Megan Ridl