



OHIO
OSTEOPATHIC
ASSOCIATION



The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS



December 1, 2022

Speaker of the House Robert Cupp
77 S. High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Sent Via Email

Senate President Matt Huffman
1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor Rm. 201
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Speaker Cupp and President Huffman,

On behalf of the organizations noted above and the physicians they represent, we strongly urge your consideration of unintended consequences of a total abortion ban.

As physicians, the preservation of the patient-physician relationship is of utmost importance. Medical decisions should be made by patients in consultation with their physicians without undue interference by outside parties. This not only applies to family planning and reproductive procedures, but to all medical decisions patients need to consider with the advice and consult of their trusted physician.

We have serious concern about the ability to recruit and keep physicians in Ohio if they must question what they can and cannot do, with fear of prosecution. Physicians are medical professionals, not lawyers. We need to be able to make quick decisions for the best care of our patients without second-guessing.

In any bill that seeks to regulate medical procedures, it is extremely important the definitions used are formally endorsed medical definitions. When bills have language that does not align with commonly accepted medical definitions, there can be unintended consequences. An example of such is “unborn human individual” which could include embryos created from in vitro fertilization (IVF).

We respectfully request your consideration of our concerns and ask you to reject any legislation that interferes with the trusted patient-physician relationship, criminalizes physicians for providing essential health care, and impacts an already at risk Ohio physician workforce.

Respectfully,

The Ohio Coalition of Primary Care Physicians

cc: Members of the Ohio General Assembly