

July 13, 2022

United States House of Representatives Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of March for Life Action and the millions of pro-life Americans who march to end abortion, I am writing to voice our opposition to <u>H.R. 8296</u>, the deceptively named Women's Health Protection Act of 2022. This radical legislation specifically seeks to eliminate all pro-life and conscience protections in current law, and will overturn numerous state pro-life laws. March for Life Action will score a "yes" vote negatively in our scorecard for the 117th Congress.

The landmark Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* confirmed that there is no constitutional right to abortion. The *Dobbs* decision overturned the wrongly decided *Roe v. Wade*, returning the power to protect the unborn to the American people through their elected representatives.

The Women's Health Protection Act, or more aptly named the Abortion on Demand Until Birth Act, is seeking to virtually eliminate the American people's ability to protect the unborn legislatively, and is anything but protective of women and children. It is one of the most radical abortion bills ever introduced in Congress and goes significantly beyond codifying *Roe v. Wade*, which legalized abortions up until birth. The bill also seeks to enshrine the right to abortion up until birth for virtually any reason into federal law and would overturn critical pro-life laws throughout the states which protect women and unborn children.

These extreme efforts are not reflective of the will of the American people, the majority of whom oppose such efforts to legalize abortion up to birth. A new <u>Harvard CAPS Harris</u> poll conducted post *Dobbs* demonstrates that only 10% of Americans think abortion should be legal through all 9 months of pregnancy. Therefore, 90% of Americans oppose the unrestricted abortion access mandated by H.R. 8296. A prior iteration of this egregious bill already passed in the House earlier this year, but must be stopped from passing yet again per the will of the American people.

H.R. 8296 would overturn critical life-saving laws that protect women and the unborn including the elimination of state bans on gruesome dismemberment abortions, laws that ban discriminatory abortions on the basis of a baby's sex, race, and disability, including Down Syndrome diagnoses, all state and federal parental involvement laws, laws that protect unborn babies with heartbeats, and pain-capable unborn children protection laws. The bill would also force every state to allow mail-order abortions without an in-person physician visit and allow out of state or country physicians to prescribe chemical abortions.

This bill cannot be seen for anything other than it is, extremist abortion legislation backed by the abortion industry that does not represent the interests of the American people, nor seek to protect women and children. We ask that you oppose these radical efforts that are not in the best interest of Americans.



Under H.R. 8296, laws that protect the conscience rights of healthcare professionals to not participate in abortion procedures would also be at risk. The bill specifically and dangerously eliminates the protections of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, a law that is a core tenant of our nation's founding principle of religious freedom. This is a thinly veiled attempt by the abortion industry to force physicians, nurses, and hospitals to perform abortions when it is against their sincerely held religious or moral beliefs. No medical professional or hospital should be at risk of losing their job or funding over choosing whether to perform an act that violates their conscience and takes the life of another human being.

The question over whether to support this bill should not be a political question, but rather a human rights question. There is no room for debate over what the American people want, and what women and children deserve. They deserve laws that protect and nurture them, not further exploit and endanger their health and safety.

For these reasons, March for Life Action will score against the H.R. 8296, Women's Health Protection Act of 2022 in our annual scorecard for the 117th Congress.

Sincerely,

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Felicia A. Pricenor, Esq. Vice President of Government Affairs March for Life Action