

HB0050

Unfavorable

Dr. Frank Arlinghaus

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I ask the members of the committee to return an unfavorable report on House Bill 50.

This bill is a blatant attempt to force hospitals to perform, participate in, and refer for abortion and other procedures that violate the moral teachings of the same institutions that founded the hospitals to provide care to the vulnerable. It rewrites the very code that provided protections for conscience rights, turning those protections into mandates requiring these hospitals to violate those same consciences.

The list of procedures addressed in the bill also suggests an attack on certain institutions that would be religiously based, and therefore might be considered an attack on religion.

We have a shortage of nurses and other health care professionals that is getting worse. We have a need for more hospitals and more care. We should not restrict the conscience rights of these workers and these institutions, especially in ways that could have a chilling effect on the health care environment.

I ask that you return an unfavorable report on House Bill 50 and continue to protect the conscience rights of institutions and individuals .