

March 12, 2024

Re: SB 682

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony regarding the above referenced bill.

I am a member of Feminists for Life, and I totally support this bill to protect the lives and health of women from threats and coercion to abort during pregnancy.

At age 19 I experienced an unplanned pregnancy and also experienced coercion from my then husband and a male doctor to abort at three months. I was able to overcome this unwelcome pressure to terminate my pregnancy which turned out to be the only live birth pregnancy I ever had. I now have an adult daughter and three grandchildren and truly cringe at the thought of succumbing to pressure from two men to abort my own child when I was so young and vulnerable. Intentional termination of a human life has lifelong consequences that cannot be undone.

Later in life, I experienced domestic violence at the hands of a second husband, and I well understand the dynamics of power and control and coercion in an abusive relationship.

As cases of domestic violence soar in our society I have a deep appreciation for women with a crisis pregnancy who are in an abusive relationship and the impact of coercion on mother and child.

I am currently under an Address Shield with the Safe at Home program for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. I am so grateful that legislators like yourselves passed the Safe at Home act to protect women and I urge you to pass SB682 which will also protect women.

Sincerely,

Katherine Adelaide

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