



## **MORE BREAKING NEWS!!**

*On behalf of our friends at Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio:*

For Immediate Release

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### **Governor Mike DeWine Signs Nation's Strongest Pro-Life Law *Right to Life Action Coalition Applauds Ohio Pro-Life Governor***

**COLUMBUS---**In a quiet ceremony this afternoon, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed into law Substitute Senate Bill 23, the "Human Rights and Heartbeat Protection Act." The law will take effect in 90 days. Members of the Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio joined the Governor to participate in the signing ceremony.

"Governor DeWine continues his lifelong commitment to protecting the unborn with his signature on one of the strongest prolife bills in our nation" remarked Margie Christie, President of the Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio (RTLACO) and Executive Director of Dayton Right to Life. "This law will protect tens of thousands of pre-born Ohioans from the horrors of abortion."

The law prohibits the performance of an abortion upon detection of a fetal heartbeat using standard medical procedures, usually at around six weeks gestation. The law provides a waiver of the requirement should the mother's life be in danger and an abortion is the medically-necessary procedure to protect her life. Violations by medical providers are a fifth-degree felony, and possible fines by the State Medical Board of up to \$20,000 can be levied. A provision of the law provides funding for adoption and foster care assistance, utilizing fine monies surrendered by providers.

"It is certain this law will curtail the ongoing slaughter of the most defenseless Ohioans" noted Meg Wittman, Executive Director of Right to Life of Greater Cincinnati and RTLACO member. "Our pro-life pregnancy care centers are experienced in offering support and assistance to mothers and their babies, and look forward to serving more."

The Ohio Department of Health is directed to write rules within 120 days of the law's enactment to create the standards for detection of the fetal heartbeat.

"We are confident that Governor DeWine's Health Director, Dr. Amy Acton, will write solid rules to implement this life saving law" stated Molly Smith, President of Cleveland Right to Life and RTLACO President-Elect. "The Governor has been consistent in his pro-life principles, which we greatly appreciate."

"Governor DeWine has noted the essential function of government is to protect the most vulnerable" and that certainly includes the unborn said Ed Sitter, Executive Director of Greater Toledo Right to Life and past President of RTLACO, "Governor DeWine carried out that function by affixing his name to the Human Rights and Heartbeat Protection Act."

Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio is grateful to our grassroots supporters, sidewalk counselors, prayer warriors and member organizations, who have given a voice to the voiceless on this historic day in Ohio.

Dayton Right to Life Society is a proud member of [Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio](#).



**Dayton Right to Life: Protecting Life through Law, Education, and Community Action.**



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