

**Testimony of Don Nelson**

**Nevada Right to Life**

**Regarding SJR7**

**Submitted March 22, 2023**

Mr. Chairman, members of this committee, I'm Don Nelson, I live in Sparks, Nevada and I represent Nevada Right to Life. I oppose SJR7 because it makes abortion a fundamental right throughout pregnancy and cannot be denied for any reason and allows no state interest to protect the child. Abortion is not health care or a human right because it intentionally kills another human being.

No one, including many who say they are pro-choice, but who truly oppose late abortion, can support this bill. Late abortions are not rare nor mostly for extreme situations. An article "Who Seeks Abortions at or After 20 Weeks?" by Foster and Kimport says that abortions after 20 weeks make up 1 percent of all abortions and "constitutes a substantial number of abortions." That would be approximately 10,000 abortions. Abortions between 14 and 20 weeks constitutes about 7 percent of all abortions or around 70,000 abortions. Foster and Kimport also say "In many ways, women who had later abortions were similar to those who obtained first-trimester procedures" and that "data suggests that most women seeking later terminations are not doing so for reasons of fetal anomaly or life endangerment."

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1363/4521013>

This bill must also be opposed because Maureen Condic, PhD in her Supreme Court Brief says that "Recent Scientific Advances Demonstrate Fetal Consciousness From Early In The Second Trimester" and "That Fetal Capacity For Suffering Also Arises Early In The Second Trimester." That means abortions from at least the early second trimester onward kill conscious, pain capable human beings. [https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/19/19-1392/185364/20210729171818898\\_CondicCLI%20Amicus%20Brief%20Final.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/19/19-1392/185364/20210729171818898_CondicCLI%20Amicus%20Brief%20Final.pdf)

Late abortions are cruel and inhumane. Abortionist Warren Hern writes that in D&E abortions, the most common late abortion, "We have reached a point in this particular technology where there is no possibility of denial of an act of destruction on the part of the operator... The sensations of dismemberment flow through the forceps like an electric current."

<https://www.drhern.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/staff-reaction-de.pdf>

This bill says that the only compelling state interest in abortion is the health of the aborting woman. Nevada has an interest in preventing cruelty to conscious and pain capable humans beings.

SJR7 is radical and not representative of our state or nation [with only 21 percent of Americans](#) supporting this kind of radical abortion on demand throughout pregnancy without apology or exception amendment. 69 percent would limit abortion to the first 3 months and 10 percent to

the first 6 months. <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/communications/polls/2023-kofc-marist-poll-presentation.pdf>

I would also note that “abortion—removing the fetus with the intent of ending its life—is *never* medically necessary.” [https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/19/19-1392/185350/20210729163532595 No.%2019-1392%20-%20American%20Association%20of%20Pro-Life%20Obstetricians%20and%20Gynecologists%20-%20Amicus%20Brief%20in%20Support%20of%20Petitioner%20-%202019-1392-29-21.pdf](https://www.supremecourt.gov/DocketPDF/19/19-1392/185350/20210729163532595%20No.%2019-1392%20-%20American%20Association%20of%20Pro-Life%20Obstetricians%20and%20Gynecologists%20-%20Amicus%20Brief%20in%20Support%20of%20Petitioner%20-%202019-1392-29-21.pdf)

If it were, all states have protections to allow it to be done under life threatening conditions. <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/the-disingenuous-debate-over-ectopic-pregnancy-and-miscarriage/>

I would also note that “abortion restrictions have not been shown to increase maternal

mortality ratios (MMR) in other countries. In fact, the U.S. has the worst MMR of the developed countries despite having very high overall abortion rates, and late-term abortion rates second only to Communist China. Countries as diverse as Chile, El Salvador, Poland and Nicaragua all saw their MMR improve after they implemented abortion restrictions. Demographically similar countries – Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom – until recently had disparate abortion laws, but nonetheless a lower MMR was demonstrated in abortion-restrictive Ireland than in the abortion-permissive UK”. <https://lozierinstitute.org/response-to-media-allegations-that-abortion-restrictions-cause-maternal-mortality-and-female-suicides/>

Please oppose SJR7.

**Documents attached:**

[THOMAS E. DOBBS, ET AL., Petitioners v. JACKSON WOMEN’S HEALTH ORGANIZATION, ET AL. On Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit BRIEF OF MAUREEN L. CONDIC, PH.D. AND THE CHARLOTTE LOZIER INSTITUTE AS AMICI CURIAE SUPPORTING PETITIONERS](#)

[Who Seeks Abortions at or After 20 Weeks? In Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 2013](#)

[The Reality of Late-term Abortion, Tessa Longbons, Lozier Institute](#)

[For What Reasons Are Partial Birth Abortions Usually Performed, National Right to Life](#)

[Dismemberment Abortion FAQs, National Right to Life](#)

[Response to Media Allegations that Abortion Restrictions Cause Maternal Mortality and Female Suicides, Ingrid Skop, M.D., F.A.C.O.G., Lozier Institute.](#)

A copy of the complete article is on file with the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Research Library (library@lcb.state.nv.us).