

Submitter: Kent McCarty
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SJR33

To: Senate Rules Committee, Chair
Senator Rob Wagner
April 25, 2023

Re: Senate Joint Resolution 33 which is sponsored by Senate President Rob Wagner, D-Lake Oswego, Sen. Elizabeth Steiner, D-NW Portland and Beaverton, and Sen. Lew Fredrick, D-Portland, and 19 others.

Dear Members of the Senate Rules Committee,

I am very grateful for my specific representative and all of the Oregon Legislators who give their time gifts and efforts to represent Oregonians. Your being here is a vote of confidence in the will of the people, stable government and change and good faith our representative form of government.

I am strongly urging you to vote, "NO" on SJR 33. for 2 reasons.

First I want to address legal abortion. It has no place in statute (which it already is) and least of all in the Constitution.

An accepted fact of embryology is that life begins at conception. Conception, gestation & birth is a continuous process that will result in the birth of a wonderful new human being. Said another way, say Joe (assigned the male sex at birth) and Hannah (assigned the female sex at birth) marry and do what married couples naturally do. Hannah conceives, does nothing but daily life for 9 months or so, and their baby will be born. It requires interruption of some kind to stop the natural process. Forgive me for being simple, but this proves that life begins at conception. At some early stages in the womb, the baby may look like a blob of tissue, and at some point it may become more recognizable as what it in reality is-a little person. But just because it looks like a blob of tissue at some stage of development DOES NOT mean or imply that is just like any other blob of tissue in Mom's body. No other type of cells in her body will replicate and become a baby if given time and nutrition. (i.e., not aborted). We know all this.

The life that is being destroyed is not the mothers...if it was just tissue, a tumor, a cancer, calcification of a bone etc. those could be surgically removed for the benefit for the mother with no moral questions.

What abortion does is it kills a life that God has allowed to come into existence. The question we must ask ourselves is: is this a human? Do we kill our two year olds when they cause extreme financial struggle, emotional struggle, or if they get violent or if they're in a bad mood or they're irascible or they have by their behavior driven me past my wits end? No, of course not.

If all this new life needs is time, nourishment and protection to become like you and

me then it is worthy of full support and protection apart from any other external consequence, no matter how excruciating and heartbreaking. Of course we should fully support Moms who are pregnant and in a life changing situation and from whom the father has walked away from his responsibility, but that is a discussion for another time.

I respectfully ask you to sincerely consider with me the fact that God will hold you accountable and me accountable for the governing decisions we make.

The state does NOT have grounds to enact a constitutional amendment or law or any other thing that would deny our most are most vulnerable citizens the right to continue living their life that has already started. Let today be the day of a shift in acknowledging that conception, birth and pregnancy and children are GOOD, enrich our lives and that they deserve our wholehearted support throughout their lives.

Please-Vote NO on SJR33.

Again, thank you for your service as representatives.