

Personhood FL

To Enjoy and Defend Life!

Personhood Florida Prolife Bill Recommendations

HB 1139: Termination of Pregnancies — General Bill by Driskell ; Harris ; (Co-Introducers) Bartleman

SB 870: Termination of Pregnancies — General Bill by Davis

Termination of Pregnancies — Termination of Pregnancies; Prohibits physicians from knowingly performing or inducing termination of pregnancy after determining that fetus is sustainable outside womb through standard medical measures, with exceptions; revises exceptions.

Analysis — HB 1139/SB 870 would remove Florida’s six week “abortion ban” that already has many exceptions that allow abortionists to kill innocent preborn girls and boys with immunity and would instead allow abortion for any and all reasons up to viability, and despite the language in it’s description, this bill would continue to allow abortionists to kill preborn children after viability to protect the life *and* health of the mother.

By legalizing abortions for any and all reasons up to the point of an arbitrary “viability” this legislation would open the floodgate of abortion and cause Florida to once again become an abortion vacation state where women would come from other states not to visit our beaches or Disney but to pay an abortionist to kill their preborn baby.

This bill keeps exceptions that allow abortionists to kill preborn girls and boys after viability, even up until the moment of birth, to save the life *and* health of the mother. Obviously, if the baby is viable and the mother’s life is truly at risk, a doctor could simply deliver the baby and in most cases save the lives of both the mother and her preborn daughter or son, but this bill continues to allow abortion until birth and fails to require that doctors fight to save the lives of both the mother and her preborn child or children.

Analysis — Personhood FL opposes SB 870 and urges legislators to instead champion legislation restores the right to life of every child from conception. Preborn deserve nothing less than equal protection under the law—no exceptions, no compromise.

HB 1617: Stem Cell Therapy — General Bill by Buchanan

SB 1768: Stem Cell Therapy — General Bill by Trumbull

Stem Cell Therapy — Stem Cell Therapy; Authorizing health care providers to perform stem cell therapy not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration under certain circumstances; requiring health care providers to provide a specified written notice to patients before performing any stem cell therapy; requiring health care providers to obtain written consent from the patient or his or her representative before performing the therapy, etc.

Analysis — This bill brings needed guidance on stem cell therapy and offers freedom for patients to choose to receive stem cell therapy that is not approved by the FDA. Some stem cell research and treatment does include stem cells derived from aborted babies and/or human embryos created in a laboratory for the purpose of extracting stem cells. This bill rightly prohibits the use of stem cells derived from aborted babies but doesn’t prohibit the use of stem cells from human embryos produced in a lab. With much emphasis in Florida on medical research, it is important to prohibit research and therapy that destroy human life. Human beings, even at the embryonic stage of development, are created in God’s image and should be protected rather than experimented on.



QR Code for All documents

Changes Needed to Support — Personhood FL supports this bill with an amendment that prohibits the use of stem cells derived from human embryos and that would also prohibit the creation of human embryos in a laboratory for experimentation.

HB 471: End-of-life Options — General Bill by Casello

SB 1700: End-of-life Options — General Bill by Berman

End-of-life Options — End-of-life Options; Creating the "Florida End-of-Life Options Act"; providing criteria for individuals to request certain medication as qualified patients; specifying responsibilities for attending physicians and consulting physicians; requiring persons who have custody or control of any unused medication prescribed under the act to dispose of it in a specified manner; specifying requirements for the death certificate of qualified patients who die by self-administration of medication prescribed in accordance with the act, etc.

Analysis — Since God creates every human being in His image, every human life should be protected even from self-harm. Personhood Florida opposes all attempts to legalize and/or condone assisted suicide and euthanasia. This includes the intentional use of medical technology to cause death or speed up the dying process by withholding ordinary, appropriate, and prudent medical care.

On the other hand, Personhood Florida supports the traditional Judeo-Christian ethic that holds that although one must use ordinary, appropriate means to maintain one's health, one is not bound to use extraordinary and heroic measures. Thus, death may be allowed to come naturally to the terminally ill when such heroic means only prolong the dying process and contain no hope for a reasonable return of health.

Personhood Florida believes that we owe our sick and dying something greater than unnecessary "right to die" bills, which are the first steps toward a duty to die and legalized euthanasia. There is a greater and clearer need to help the sick and dying to secure compassionate support and good health care.

Oppose — Personhood FL opposes this bill.

HB 353: Patient-directed Medical Orders — General Bill by Plasencia, (Co-Introducers) Salzman

SB 566: Patient-directed Medical Orders — General Bill by Rodriguez, (Co-Introducers) Sharief

Patient-directed Medical Orders — Revising legislative findings and intent to include palliative care for progressive illnesses; providing a purpose and requirements for a patient-directed medical order; requiring that certain health care services be provided to the principal regardless of the decision to withhold or withdraw life-prolonging procedures; authorizing physicians, physician assistants, and certain advanced practice registered nurses to withhold or withdraw life-prolonging procedures under certain circumstances without penalty, etc.

Analysis — See analysis for HB 471/SB 1700. HB 353/SB 566 does allow patients and/or their representative to make the choice on whether to implement or withhold extraordinary and heroic measures. We do have a few concerns with this bill though.

This bill requires necessary health care services to be provided for the care and comfort of the patient but doesn't define what constitutes necessary health care. Necessary health care should always include food and water if the patient is able to eat and drink through normal means.

This bill calls what we have presented as extraordinary and heroic measures as life-prolonging procedures. It specifically mentions cardiopulmonary resuscitation as a life-prolonging procedure but doesn't provide a full definition of other types of procedures that may be considered life-prolonging. In fact, the bill specifically adds "other life-prolonging procedures" to multiple places in the statute without defining the term.

In several places, this bill allows health care providers to withhold life-prolonging procedures such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation without a written order to do so. This provision could allow health care providers who don't value human life as valuable at the end of life to arbitrarily withhold treatment perhaps even against the wishes of the patient and/or the patient's representative.

This bill specifies that the agency shall adopt rules providing for the implementation of orders to withhold or withdraw life-prolonging procedures which could allow bureaucrats and agency employees to create rules that make it easier to withhold care even against the patient and/or the patient's representative's wishes.

Changes Needed to Support — Personhood FL supports this bill with changes. We would like to see more clarification on terms, the removal of the allowance for health care providers to withhold care without an order to do so, and clarification on how the agency should create their rules.

HB 1573: Exceptions to the Limitation on Termination of Pregnancies — General Bill by Driskell

SB 288: Exceptions to the Limitation on Termination of Pregnancies — General Bill by Polsky

Exceptions to the Limitation on Termination of Pregnancies — Termination of Pregnancies; Prohibits physicians from knowingly performing or inducing termination of pregnancy after determining that fetus is sustainable outside womb through standard medical measures, with exceptions; revises exceptions.

Response to SB 288:

Exceptions to the Limitation on Termination of Pregnancies — HB 1572/SB 288 changes the definition of Fatal Fetal Anomaly which would place more preborn babies into this category. It also reduces the requirement for determining if an abortion is “necessary” from two physicians to one.

Analysis — Personhood FL believes that every human life, from the moment of conception, possesses inherent dignity and worth. SB 288’s expansion of exceptions for fatal fetal abnormalities is morally unacceptable. A diagnosis, no matter how dire, does not justify the intentional killing of an innocent child, and some of these diagnosis’ are inaccurate meaning that perfectly developing baby girls and boys will be killed because of this exception.

Lowering the requirement from two physicians to one opens the door to abuse, allowing the abortionist, who will personally profit from the abortion, to alone make the decision on whether an abortion is necessary to save the life and health of the mother. There are rare cases where premature delivery is necessary to save the life of the mother, but there is never a necessity to purposely kill a baby to save the life of the mother. Keeping the health of the mother as an exception expands the conditions where an abortionist may purposely kill a preborn baby without consequence. Our laws should protect the lives of the mother as well as the life of her preborn daughter(s) and/or son(s).

Oppose — Personhood FL urges lawmakers to reject this bill and instead advance policies that protect every innocent human life without exception.

HB 823: Health Care — General Bill by Eskamani

SB 932: Health Care Freedom Act — General Bill by Jones

Health Care Freedom Act — Health Care Freedom Act; Citing this act as the "Health Care Freedom Act"; repealing provisions relating to the prohibited use of state funds for travel to another state for purpose of abortion services, the prohibited use of state funds for sex-reassignment prescriptions or procedures, and the right of medical conscience of health care providers and health care payors; creating the "Health Care Transparency and Accessibility Act"; revising the timeframe in which a physician may perform a termination of pregnancy; repealing a provision relating to patient immigration status data collection in hospitals, etc.

Analysis — HB 823/SB 932 increases the documentation requirements on providers who refuse providing services such as abortion and gender reaffirming, i.e. sex change, services, keeps the current life and health of the mother exception that allows for abortion until the moment of birth, removes language that prohibits abortion after six weeks, removes the requirement that an abortionist would need to see a patient in person and instead allows for abortionists to prescribe abortifacients through telehealth appointments, claims that a woman has a constitutional freedom to abortion, removes support for nonmedical material assistance that improves the pregnancy or parenting situation of families, including, but not limited to, clothing, car seats, cribs, formula, and diapers, removes support for parenting classes for parents who choose to keep and raise their children, requires AHCA to provide Medicaid reimbursement for medically necessary treatment for or related to gender dysphoria or comparable or equivalent diagnoses, prohibits AHCA from discriminating in reimbursement on basis of recipient's gender identity or that recipient is transgender individual, and removes the definition of “sex” as either male or female based on the person's sex chromosomes, naturally occurring sex hormones, and internal and external genitalia present a birth, and removes the penalty for relating to prescribing, administering, or performing sex-reassignment prescriptions or procedures for a patient younger than 18 years of age.

Personhood FL supports restoring the right to life of preborn children and opposes exceptions that allow preborn children to be killed by abortion. We believe that we should support parents who choose life with necessary supplies and parenting classes. We believe that God creates each human being as either male or female and that we should support children in accepting who God created them to be rather than encouraging and

Continued on the Next Page

facilitating gender reassignment services that often have negative psychological consequences.

Oppose — Personhood FL opposes this bill.

HB 63: Pregnancy Support and Wellness Services — General Bill by Skidmore ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Campbell ; Eskamani ; Harris

SB 934: Pregnancy Support and Wellness Services — General Bill by Smith

Pregnancy Support and Wellness Services — Revising contract requirements for the Florida Pregnancy Care Network, Inc.; requiring the Department of Health to conduct annual visits to each organization within the network; providing requirements for the visits, etc.

Analysis — This bill would add regulation to prolife pregnancy centers contracted under the Florida Pregnancy Care Network to add fines for non-compliance, require annual financial audits of centers receiving funds under the program, and require annual inspections by the department of health. Prolife pregnancy centers contracted under the Florida Pregnancy Care Network already have financial oversight and visits as a part of this program. Adding requirements would increase administrative expenses and add unnecessary costs to pregnancy centers which would reduce funds available to provide help to women and children in need.

Oppose — Personhood FL opposes this bill.

HB 1499: Reproductive Health Care — General Bill by Nixon

SB 1380: Reproductive Health Rights — General Bill by Arrington

Reproductive Health Care Rights — Reproductive Health Care; Provides that individuals have specified reproductive rights; prohibits local government from regulating individual's reproductive freedom.

Analysis — HB 1499/SB1380 would place into FL Statutes the flawed concept that the privacy clause of the Florida Constitution grants women the “right” to pay an abortionist to kill their preborn children through abortion. In *Planned Parenthood Of Southwest And Central Florida vs State of Florida*, the FL Supreme Court ruled that the privacy clause in Florida Constitution did not create a right to abortion! If enacted, this bill would conflict with that FL Supreme Court ruling. This bill would also prohibit local governments from creating sanctuaries for life where every innocent human life is recognized and protected. Florida legislators should instead allow local governments to protect every innocent human life.

Oppose — Personhood FL opposes this bill.

HB 1517: Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn Child —by Greco ; (CO-INTRODUCERS) Jacques

SB 1284: Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn Child — General Bill by Grall

Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn Child — Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn Child; Revising the definition of the term “survivors” to include the parents of an unborn child; prohibiting a right of action against the mother for the wrongful death of an unborn child; authorizing parents of an unborn child to recover certain damages, etc.

Analysis — HB 1517/SB 1284 adds unborn children to the statute that allows surviving parents and other survivors to recover compensation for lost wages, pain and suffering, and other compensation. In doing so, this bill elevates unborn children in certain circumstances to the same status as a born child. We are not sure whether the seek to remove liability from mothers who have a miscarriage or from mothers who pay an abortionist to kill their unborn baby, and we point out that the statute does not allow a mother an exception if she purposely harms her born child. We believe that unborn children should have the same rights as born children and not just in certain circumstances.

Support — Personhood FL supports this bill but encourages the authors to simply define unborn humans as persons having the same rights as born humans. Personhood FL recommends removing the house version’s exemption that removes liability from a mother of an unborn child.

The care of human life and happiness . . . is the first and only legitimate object of good government.” ~ Thomas Jefferson

www.PersonhoodFL.com | (772) 873-7187 | info@PersonhoodFL.com

Personhood Florida Inc., P.O. Box 493000, Leesburg, FL 34749