



THE  
**STEADFAST**  
CHURCH



ACTS 2:42

March 4, 2024

**Testimony in Opposition to LD 227**

**An Act Regarding Health Care in the State**

**Joint Standing Committee On Health Coverage, Insurance, and Financial Services**

Senator Bailey, Representative Perry, and Members of the Committee:

We are The Steadfast Church, shepherded by Pastor Dale Overlock who teaches God's Word and the good news of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our fellowship currently meets in Carmel. The Steadfast Church conveys in this testimony our STRONG OPPOSITION to LD 227.

We affirm that God's infallible, Holy Word, recorded in the Bible, is revealed, authoritative, and propositional truth, and one of those truths is the preciousness of human life, made in the image of God (Psalm 139:13–16). The lives of children must be protected; they are precious to God Almighty, and He has ordained their parents to be their stewards and protectors. Abortion and performing "gender-affirming" surgeries on children are abhorrent attacks on the image of God, and it is not the place of the State to usurp the God-given role of the parent.

In these times, there are many who deny these truths (2 Timothy 4:3). Some deny the truth of God's Word, others point to supposed "Christians" supporting both abortion and what is in fact the mutilation of children in sorry attempts to justify these horrid practices. Truth is not determined by majority or consensus, even if it were to be a majority of those claiming to be Christian. Truth is not determined by individual interpretation, for truth is objective. God's

Word is the source of truth, and God's Word is clear on the subject of abortion and on causing harm to children. In Proverbs, it says:

*“Deliver those who are being taken away to death,  
And those who are stumbling to the slaughter, Oh hold them back.  
If you say, ‘Behold, we did not know this,’  
Does not He who weighs the hearts understand?  
And does not He who guards your soul know?  
And will not He render to man according to his work?”*

Proverbs 24:11-12<sup>1</sup>

We are without excuse, and we must protect both the preborn and children suffering from gender dysphoria from exploitation and extermination. Whether in the State House or from behind the pulpit, we must not exchange truth for bloodshed (Micah 3:9-12). Those who try to excuse this evil or twist truth are called out in the book of Isaiah:

*“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,  
Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness,  
Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!  
Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes  
And understanding in their own sight!”*

Isaiah 5:20-21

While this bill tries to protect a so-called “right” to “gender-affirming health care services and reproductive health care services,” it infringes upon the right to life of preborn babies and the right of parents to protect their children. It allows for kidnapping a confused child against the wishes of one or both parents, and it hinders other States’ efforts to protect their citizens.

Our rights are given by Natural Law, which is given by God. God's Law is clear on the subject of maiming and murdering children.

---

<sup>1</sup> Scripture quotations taken from the (LSB) Legacy Standard Bible.

*“You shall also say to the sons of Israel: “Any man from the sons of Israel or from the sojourners sojourning in Israel who gives any of his seed to Molech shall surely be put to death; the people of the land shall stone him with stones. I will also set My face against that man and will cut him off from among his people because he has given some of those who are his seed to Molech, so as to defile My sanctuary and to profane My holy name. If the people of the land, however, should ever turn a blind eye to that man when he gives any of those who are his seed to Molech, so as not to put him to death, then I Myself will set My face against that man and against his family, and I will cut off from among their people both him and all those who play the harlot after him, in playing the harlot after Molech.””*

Leviticus 20:2-5

God’s heart has not changed from then—there are consequences for both harming children and for turning a blind eye to it. Almighty God establishes all nations, and this is particularly evident with the undeniably miraculous foundation of our own. Yet God also removes nations, and wicked nations are vomited out by the land (Leviticus 18:24-25, 28; 20:22). We must not turn a blind eye to evil; we must reject it and not enshrine it as a right. A nation that turns itself over to corruption cannot stand.

*“Woe to those who enact evil statutes  
And to those who constantly record mischief,  
So as to turn the poor away from their cause  
And rob the afflicted of My people of their justice,  
So that widows may be their spoil  
And that they may plunder the orphans.”*

Isaiah 10:1-2

The famed Saint Augustine is quoted as saying *“nam mihi lex esse non videtur, quae justa non fuerit”* (“for I think a law that is not just, is not actually a law”). When a government enacts evil laws, it strays from its God-ordained purpose. Time is spent debating wicked laws, time that could be better spent in the pursuit of protecting the people’s actual rights. Our

Legislature must be better stewards of our resources and stay true to its purpose by soundly defeating unjust bills like LD 227.

It is a cruel thing to imply a woman's well-being is dependent on killing her baby. It is cruel that children are told they are unhappy because they were born wrong and must be mutilated. It is cruel to try to justify infanticide by deceptively equating miscarriages with abortions. It is cruel to hide the truth of this bill—that is is a massive gift to the abortion industry and to the gender “reassignment” industry—with the claim that it is protecting a right. This Act is in no way about health care, for killing babies and permanently altering and scarring children in their developmental years is not health care.

Some may call themselves Christians and claim that protecting this “right” to cause harm is Christlike, granting “autonomy.” Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord, and He saved us not to excuse our sins, but to save us *from* our sin. Salvation is transformation, not leaving us where we were, saving us from the wrath of God which we deserve. The Christian walk is to become more like Christ, not to promote or ignore our patterns of sin. The life of a Christian belongs in service to Christ, not our own desires and interpretations. Do not lead people astray by claiming we’ve a right to kill and harm the innocent.

Protect the dignity of children and the sanctity of life. The Steadfast Church strongly urges you to vote OUGHT NOT TO PASS on LD 227.

Respectfully,

Dale Overlock, *Pastor*

Nathan Gould, *Assistant Pastor*

Gary Gould, *Deacon*