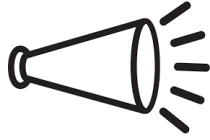


Florida Voice



For The Unborn

Florida Voice for the Unborn Calls Out the Tallahassee Swamp’s Latest Betrayal of the Unborn: the House of Representatives’ Passage of Senate Bill 698, Which Violates the Dignity of Human Life in its Most Vulnerable State

March 11, 2020

For Immediate Release

Contact: Andrew Shirvell, Founder and Executive Director, at (850) 404-3414 or Andrew@FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com.

Executive Director Andrew Shirvell today issued the following statement regarding the Florida House of Representative’s near-unanimous passage of Senate Bill 698 (Reproductive Health):

“With just a few days remaining in the annual Florida Legislative Session, the Tallahassee Swamp has struck again – and, unfortunately, it’s the unborn who will suffer as a result. Florida Voice for the Unborn is disgusted with the leadership of the House of Representatives for permitting a vote on Senate Bill 698 tonight. This bill, sponsored by pro-abortion state Senator Lauren Book (D – Plantation), seeks to address the issue of unscrupulous fertility doctors using their own sperm to impregnate female patients. While that is a noble aim, the bill also contains language that fundamentally violates the dignity of human life in its most vulnerable state, i.e. as a tiny zygote.”

Shirvell continued, “Florida Voice for the Unborn has vehemently objected to Senate Bill 698 because it contains a novel definition of ‘reproductive material.’ As defined in the bill passed tonight, ‘reproductive material’ is ‘any human ‘egg’ or ‘sperm’ as those terms are defined in s. 742.13, or human zygote.’ The next line of the bill then defines ‘zygote’ as ‘a fertilized ovum.’”

Shirvell further remarked, “Florida Voice for the Unborn’s position is that a unique human being comes into existence at the moment of fertilization. As unique human beings, zygotes can never be considered the equivalent of ‘sperm’ and ‘eggs’ — and cannot be termed under the law as ‘reproductive material.’”

Shirvell continued, “For the past few weeks, Florida Voice for the Unborn has been sounding the alarm about Senate Bill 698, which has been deeply flawed and agenda-driven from its inception. It is a trojan-horse that seeks to sneak an anti-human life provision through the backdoor into Florida law.”

Shirvell further commented, “After the Florida Senate unanimously passed Senate Bill 698 last Thursday, March 5th, Florida Voice for the Unborn remained hopeful that the much more conservative House of Representatives would decline to take-up Senate Bill 698 and let the clock run out. However, that turned-out not to be the case. Instead, the House actually made the bill worse by voting for an amendment proposed by pro-abortion Representative Evan Jenne (D – Broward County). Not only did Representative Jenne’s amendment leave the objectionable definition of ‘reproductive material’ intact, but the amendment returned to the use of the term ‘embryo’ by adding provisions to the bill that imply human embryos are not unique human beings but rather are ‘things’ that are in the possession of others.

Shirvell concluded, “The responsibility for the passage tonight of Senate Bill 698 lies with the leadership of the House of Representatives. In fact, in explaining his amendment on the floor Tuesday night, Representative Jenne said as much, and he thanked by name incoming House Speaker Chris Sprowls, among other pro-life Republicans. The last-minute shenanigans are exactly why grassroots pro-lifers consistently remain suspicious of politicians who claim to be pro-life on the campaign trail, but once in office do not provide pro-life leadership. And, the Tallahassee Swamp has always been much thicker than the one in Washington, D.C.”

Florida Voice for the Unborn is a new grassroots Tallahassee-based lobbying group that only focuses on pro-life issues impacting the unborn. It is strictly independent, and its work is guided by faith in God’s only Son, Jesus Christ. Florida Voice for the Unborn supports all peaceful efforts by elected officials and others to end abortion and save lives. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest @UnbornVoiceFL – and visit our website at FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com.
