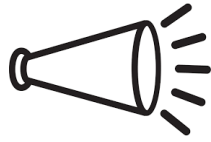


# Florida Voice



## For The Unborn

P.O. Box 12152 | Tallahassee, FL 32317

### Florida Voice for the Unborn Loudly Applauds the Florida House of Representatives for Finally Passing Today a Ban on Disability Abortions

April 23, 2021

\*For Immediate Release\*

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

Executive Director Andrew Shirvell today issued the following statement regarding House Bill 1221 (Prohibition of Disability Abortions):

“Florida Voice for the Unborn enthusiastically applauds the Florida House of Representatives for finally passing this afternoon House Bill 1221, which will stop Florida abortions based on a diagnosis of genetic disability. The vote was 74-to-44 in favor of the bill, with three Republicans outrageously joining all but one Democrat in opposition. A version of this legislation has been filed in previous Legislative Sessions, but had never been heard before a committee, let alone passed on the floor, until this year!”

Shirvell continued, “Florida Voice for the Unborn has been the leading grassroots organization in the Sunshine State pushing for this lifesaving legislation. As executive director of Florida Voice for the Unborn, I testified in favor of the bill before the House Professions & Public Health Subcommittee and the House Health & Human Services Committee. Florida Voice for the Unborn’s grassroots supporters throughout Florida contacted House members to move HB 1221 through the committee process.”

Shirvell further remarked, “Florida Voice for the Unborn expresses our profound thanks to tireless pro-life champion **Rep. Erin Grall (R—Indian River & St. Lucie Counties)** for sponsoring this much needed piece of pro-life legislation, which – when enacted into law – will contribute to building an authentic Culture of Life here in the Sunshine State.”

Shirvell continued, “Children who are diagnosed with Down syndrome or another genetic disability prior to their birth should not be targeted for extermination. They are God’s children and have the same right to life as all other persons.”

Shirvell further stated, “I appreciate **Rep. James Bush III (D—Miami-Dade County)** for breaking with his Democratic colleagues and supporting this abortion ban. Listening today and yesterday to pro-abortion Democratic representatives voraciously defend, on the House floor, the systematic murder of disabled unborn children was nauseating. Equally sickening, however, was the fact that there were three Republican representatives who cowardly said nothing during the floor debate but nonetheless joined in voting against this abortion ban. These three representatives are **Rep. Mike Caruso (R—Palm Beach County)**, **Rep. Sam Killebrew (R—Polk County)**, and **Rep. Rene Plasencia (R—Brevard & Orange Counties)**. They are traitors to the unborn and will be held accountable for that betrayal. They need to either adhere to the Republican Party’s explicitly pro-life platform, or they need to exit the Republican Party without delay.”

Shirvell concluded, “Sadly, with just one week left to go in this year’s regular Legislative Session, pro-life victories have been few and far between. House Bill 1221’s companion bill in the Senate (Senate Bill 1664) had been blocked by the pro-abortion chair of the Senate’s Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee, **Senator Lauren Book (D—Broward County)**, who refused to place the bill on her committee’s agenda. Florida Voice for the Unborn calls upon **Senate President Wilton Simpson (R—Citrus, Hernando, & Pasco Counties)** to employ whatever special procedural maneuvers are necessary for the Senate to take-up and vote on House Bill 1221. Florida Voice for the Unborn fully expects the House and Senate leadership to get this ban on disability abortions to the desk of pro-life **Governor Ron DeSantis** by the end of the regular Legislative Session, which concludes April 30th. Because unborn children’s lives are at stake, anything less is completely unacceptable.”

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Florida Voice for the Unborn is a Tallahassee-based grassroots 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, Pinterest, and Parler @UnbornVoiceFL – and visit our website at [FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com](https://FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com).