

Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Testimony – Senate Judiciary Committee

HB 171 – Adopt the Montana Abortion-Inducing Drug Risk Protocol Act

Hello Chair and members of the committee, once again my name is Kaitlyn Ruch, K-A-I-T-L-Y-N- R-U-C-H, I am 16 years old and a junior at Helena High School.

Today I am here on behalf of Pro-life Helena and Students for Life. I am the President of Helena Students for Life, a local chapter of Students for Life of America. I alongside many other pro-life youth here in Montana support legislation aimed at preventing the deadly distribution of life-ending, dangerous abortion drugs.

I am deeply concerned with my generation having access to these drugs, already having lost 1 in 4 of our generation to the violence of abortion. The Abortion Pill crisis that is sweeping America is ending lives in more than 40 percent of all abortions, with higher complication rates than surgical abortions.

This bill would ensure that abortion drugs such as RU-486 are not distributed on our college campuses and ensure that the cellphones of young women are not turned into their own personal abortion vendors.

By not passing this bill, it would enable young women, targeted by the abortion industry, to purchase abortion drugs and ship them to their home, apartment, or dorm room, allowing them to perform an unsupervised abortion on themselves, not in the presence of a medical provider. It would also allow abusers to get their hands on these drugs, enabling them to slip them into the food or drink of unsuspecting women, forcing them to have an unwanted abortion.

This bill protects women. I urge you to vote YES on HB 171 to protect Montana women and future generations of Montanans. Thank you for your time.