



Governor Mike DeWine
Riffe Center
77 South High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Governor DeWine,

We write today as elected officials from the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio to express our concern and our disappointment regarding SB 23, which you signed into law last week. This law, known as the “Heartbeat bill,” amounts to a virtual ban on abortion.

As you know, this bill would go into effect prior to when most women realize they are pregnant. This bill does not allow anywhere near a sufficient amount of time to overcome all of Ohio’s current barriers to abortion, including a 24 hour, two visit requirement. That is why this law is an effective ban on any safe and legal abortion in Ohio. This law’s intrusion into a person’s right to liberty, bodily autonomy, and privacy is unacceptable.

To make matters worse, this law does not make any exception for rape, incest, or fetal abnormality. This law bans Ohioans from making deeply personal decisions about what is best for them and their families.

We believe that everyone has the constitutional and human right to control their bodies. If, as some have said, you signed SB 23 to challenge *Roe v. Wade*, then that in itself is the wrong action for the Governor of our State. We are considering all options as this unconstitutional law is challenged in court, including the possibility of joining with other municipalities in an amicus brief.

We stand proudly with millions of other Ohioans against this unconstitutional and unjust law.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Carol Roe in black ink.

Carol Roe, Mayor

Handwritten signature of Melissa Yasinow in black ink.

Melissa Yasinow, Vice Mayor

Handwritten signature of Craig Cobb in black ink.

Craig Cobb, Council member

Handwritten signature of Michael Ungar in black ink.

Michael Ungar, Council member

Handwritten signature of Kahlil Seren in black ink.

Kahlil Seren, Council member

Cc: Senator Sherrod Brown
Senator Rob Portman
Congressional Representative Marcia Fudge
State Senator Sandra Williams
State Representative Janine Boyd

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