

SF 37 – The UN-Equal Rights Amendment - Opposed

To: Rules and Legislative Administration Committee

From: Linda Stanton, advocate for elders, the unborn, religious freedom

Thank you for considering my written testimony.

In comparing the original version and the Authors Amendment SF37DE3-2 (Her) a major difference jumps out at me.

Protection for people who are discriminated against because of AGE is eliminated.

- Does the author intend to legalize age discrimination in our state where the elderly population is growing?
- Does the author want to continue discrimination against the unborn based on age? Afterall, an unborn child is actually 9 months old when born.
- Does the author intend to allow age discrimination by a State Government that is branding itself as an abortion destination? And therefore, not protecting the unborn.

Who will protect the most vulnerable in our society – the pre-born and our frail elders, if this bill and amendment are passed?

Creates a protected class for pregnancy decisions

- This pits the mother against the child, who cannot defend herself
- Abortion is already codified in MN by Judicial decision, thus this amendment is unnecessary
- *We should be encouraging careful, family planning and use of birth control not abortion which ends a human life.*
- **Abortion is NOT birth control. People should be taking steps to prevent unwanted pregnancies!**
- Does this mean the State could force women to have abortions like they do in China?

This bill does not guarantee Equal Rights for ALL people.

Thank you.