

Testimony of Catherine R. Blaeser  
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To the Health and Human Services Committee  
Minnesota Senate  
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Thank you, Chair Wicklund and members of the Committee for this opportunity to testify against Senate File 70.

I am Cathy Blaeser, Co-Executive Director of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life.

SF 70 would appallingly repeal existing law which protects the life of an infant **born alive** after an attempted abortion, moving Minnesota backwards from a community of compassion to one of active and callous cruelty.

*Our current law* requires that, when a baby is born alive following an abortion, health care providers must exercise the same degree of professional skill and care that would be offered to any other child born alive at the same gestational age.

Protecting these **born-alive** infants underscores a premise of fundamental human compassion: if a baby is **born alive, even** after an attempted abortion, he or she is a full member of the human community who deserves our compassion and our care just like any other living human being. *Our current law* recognizes that once that baby is delivered alive, even after an attempted abortion, there are TWO patients in the room, two distinct and separate human beings.

Minnesota **led the nation** in passing this law, with many states following suit when the truth of “live-birth abortions” became national news. These abortions resulted in second- and third-trimester babies being delivered alive and then **intentionally** set aside and left to die a slow, painful, lonely death. One eyewitness nurse testified: “It was not uncommon for a live aborted baby to linger for an hour or two or even longer . . . one of these babies lived for almost an entire eight-hour shift.”

The suffering and horror of these babies being left to die cried out for legislation to **protect** their lives – and for all of us to work to create a society of compassion, not brutality.

Lest the lie be spread that this never or rarely happens, Minnesota’s abortion facilities themselves reported to the Minnesota Department of Health that in 2021 **five** babies were born alive after attempted abortions. Tragically, SF 70 will also repeal Minnesota’s Abortion

Reporting Requirements, thereby allowing abortion facilities to hide the existence of these born-alive babies that they will now be allowed to set aside and leave to die. We will never know how many babies survived an attempted abortion in 2022 or in 2023 or in 2024 or in any other year if this bill is passed. The desire of the abortion lobby is a cloak of darkness and a shroud of secrecy.

I ask you to not move Minnesota **backwards**. Compassionate, caring societies do not purposefully and callously leave their children to die on cold metal tables, alone and suffering. I ask you to vote against SF 70.