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HB 485 — Testimony Template

Updated Tuesday 11/18/25 at 6:00 pm

Ohio HB 485 — The “Baby Olivia Act” — would require schools to show an inaccurate, anti-abortion, “fetal development” video every year starting in 5th grade

- [“The ‘Meet Baby Olivia’ video was produced by Live Action, which advocates against abortion”](#)
- [Document explaining the changes between the original bill and the new “substitute” bill](#)

TAKE ACTION:

Tell your state rep to vote NO on HB 485 when it reaches the floor this week

- Find your state rep [by typing your address below this map](#)

MESSAGING SUGGESTIONS

Main message:

- Ohio is the **ONLY** state without health education standards, so our students are already not getting comprehensive health education or comprehensive sex-education.
 - Adding an additional piecemeal curricular requirement that inserts propaganda where fact and information should be is NOT how to educate Ohio students.
 - Ohio students deserve comprehensive, age appropriate, and factually accurate health education that will prepare them to be successful adults — they do NOT need political propaganda.

Messages from experts:

- **Dr. Jamie Byler, chair of the Ohio Section of American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG):**
 - Said the goal of the “Baby Olivia” video is not education.
 - “It is designed to provoke an emotional reaction, not to inform. It distorts embryonic and fetal development using non-medical language, cherry-picked facts, and a gestational timeline that is out of step with how clinicians understand pregnancy,” she said. “The video grossly misrepresents what can be seen in early pregnancy.”

- **Nick Denton, education researcher and teaching professor at Ohio State University's College of Pharmacy:**
 - Called the measure "a blatant attempt at stigmatizing family planning."
 - "Let's meet the shared goals of scientific literacy and informed decision-making through evidence-based, medically accurate education, not politicized mandates"
- **Delia Sosa, a medical student who testified on behalf of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio:**
 - "The fact is, Ohio is the only state in the nation with no standards for sex ed classes. By using our classrooms as places to push antiabortion propaganda, backed by the threat of legal action from the attorney general, this bill will prevent Ohio's young people from accessing the information they need to make informed decisions about their healthcare and their futures."
 - Sosa said the material centers the idea of "fetal personhood," which may lead students to assume they have no options except giving birth if they become pregnant...That is a subjective opinion"
- **Jaime Miracle, deputy director of Abortion Forward:**
 - Said doctors measure pregnancy by the last menstrual period. "This video does not use the pregnancy calculation that's used as a medical standard. It uses from conception, which isn't actually a knowable date in a pregnancy."
- **Danielle Firsich, director of public policy for PPAO:**
 - Said proponents touted the fact that similar legislation has been passed in Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, North Dakota and Tennessee, but "these states are also among the worst ranked in the country for sex education"

Additional messages:

- Ohio students deserve accurate, age-appropriate sex education — not a medically inaccurate and misleading video produced by a known anti-abortion group.
- Young people deserve to receive the information and skills they need to take care of themselves and to make healthy decisions for their lives, now and in the future.
- Live Action's "Meet Baby Olivia" video is not scientifically accurate and has **not** been endorsed by leading medical organizations such as the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). It is **not** a best practice recommended by experts in the sex education field.
- There is no science-based or education-based justification for including the video mandated in this bill. The only reason for showing a video like this is to spread misinformation and create shame about abortion.
- Live Action is a highly controversial political operation. It is known to use lies and misinformation to advance its anti-abortion agenda across the country by lobbying lawmakers to run their model legislation and forcing its way into classrooms.
 - In fact, Live Action was founded by Lila Rose in 2003 with the explicit goal of spreading anti-abortion propaganda.

- The information put forth in Live Action's video parrots the same lies and misinformation that anti-abortion groups and lawmakers have used to push abortion bans in Ohio and across the country.
- The "medical experts" cited in this video are largely involved with conservative think tank organizations and other hate groups who hold anti-abortion and even anti-LGBTQI+ views, going so far as to promote conversion therapy and purity culture.
- Ohio already gives tens of millions of dollars to anti-abortion fake clinics known as crisis pregnancy centers to spread misinformation and abortion stigma. This bill is just a continuation of that effort to use state tax dollars to spread misinformation and abortion stigma, but now mandated in our schools.
- Live Action wants to lie to young people and force educators to teach anti-abortion, anti-science propaganda about fetal development.
- Live Action has been widely discredited for its inflammatory and doctored videos. Their productions and their political agenda have no business being part of any curriculum.

[Read previous testimonies](#)

[Watch the sponsor hearing](#)

- **The bill sponsor admitted that there isn't currently a parental opt-out option** written into the bill, but said she was willing to add an amendment "if people want it in writing."
- **The sponsor also said she might be willing to add an amendment** allowing for alternative videos to be shown.
 - It's currently tough to comply with the bill as-written, because a school would have to show a video with high definition ultrasound footage AND the "Baby Olivia" video.
 - The "Baby Olivia" video is NOT high definition ultrasound footage. It's AI animation. So two videos would be required.