



**MICHIGAN
CATHOLIC**
CONFERENCE

MEMORANDUM

To: House Judiciary Committee
From: Rebecca Mastee, J.D., Policy Advocate
Re: Support for House Resolution 23
Date: May 7, 2019

At the start of this year, action in New York and Virginia which celebrated abortion until birth and infanticide for babies born alive during an abortion underscores the ever increasing need to advocate for the most vulnerable and least among us: the unborn human child. At the same time, let us never overlook or fail to consider the importance of safety, support, and encouragement for the child's mother.

We are grateful Representative Jim Lower has prepared House Resolution 23 on the protection of unborn life. The Resolution speaks for itself, and we are encouraged that the Michigan House of Representatives could become a national leader in declaring its policy to protect unborn life. While a small number of states have celebrated abortion without limits, a position that carries very little public support, this Resolution publicly recognizes the harm that exists behind abortion. Abortion hurts women, men, and families. Furthermore, science and basic biology show that abortion destroys a unique human life, which is undoubtedly "a cause for sadness and solemn reflection."

House Resolution 23 and its policy path articulate the necessity to promote and provide alternatives to abortion. Women who find themselves pregnant and alone often believe that abortion is the only option. Once provided with support and hope, knowing that necessary aid and care will also be available following the birth of their child, many women feel empowered to choose childbirth. What an exciting opportunity exists with this Resolution, for Michigan to lead in celebrating life and alternatives to abortion.

Therefore, we encourage your support for House Resolution 23.