



Members of the House Committee on the Judiciary,

My name is Kristan Hawkins, and I'm the President of Students for Life of America and Students for Life Action. On behalf of our nearly 1,300 active groups and of the more than 127,000 student activists we've trained across the nation, **I would like to convey our ardent support for S.B. 8, Texas' lifesaving Heartbeat Law.**

In 1973, seven men on the U.S. Supreme Court fabricated the "right to abortion," insisting it was somehow written in the U.S. Constitution in invisible ink. In doing so, the government wrongly seized the states of their right to protect preborn children through legislation, **resulting in more than 62 million children violently losing their lives to abortion.** In response, Texas created an innovative way to protect their most vulnerable. Texas should serve as an example to each and every one of you that the American people do not want limitless abortion. **We want justice for the preborn and we want true, compassionate care for their mothers.** Abortion cannot coexist with those principles.

Let me be clear, the Texas Heartbeat Law is not "devastating" to communities and families as the abortion radicals here today would like to lead you to believe. The objective fact of the matter is abortion harms women and kills innocent preborn babies. If you follow the science, you will be confronted with the reality that *life begins at conception* – when human DNA *unique to the child* is created, never to be replicated again. At six weeks gestation, that preborn child has a developed heart that beats blood through his or her own body – **a common indication of life for all living beings.**

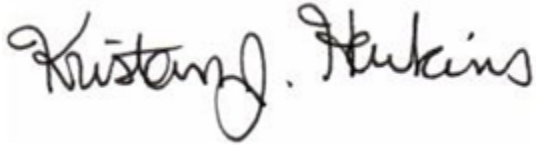
In 2020, more than 55,000 preborn children in Texas were *violently* killed by abortion. Data suggests that only about 15% of those abortions were committed before a heartbeat could be detected, meaning **the Texas Heartbeat Law is saving an estimated 130 innocent children per day.** To confirm the necessity of this law, [about 50% of Americans](#) believe abortion should be illegal when a preborn child's heart begins to beat. Additionally, [6 out of 10 Millennial and Gen Z Americans](#) believe doctors should check for a heartbeat before committing an abortion.

Representatives, there is no such thing as a *safe* abortion. Abortion always kills an innocent baby and often leaves the mother with [physical and emotional damage](#). The possible physical consequences of abortion include persistent bleeding, organ damage, fertility issues, breast cancer, infection, and even death. Abortion can also subject a mother to psychological scars such as grief and regret, substance abuse, relationship issues, insomnia, nightmares, anxiety, depression, and even suicide.

Abortion is [particularly harmful to minority communities](#). The [#1 cause of death](#) in the Black community is not violent crime, cancer, heart disease, AIDS, or accidents – *it's abortion*. In fact, abortion kills more Black people than all of those factors combined. Although 13% of the American population consists of Black women, they make up [more than 38%](#) of those who get abortions. Planned Parenthood has placed approximately [80% of their abortion facilities](#) in close proximity to minority communities, which is unsurprising considering Planned Parenthood's founder, Margaret Sanger, was a notorious racist who sought to "exterminate the Negro population." Additionally, Planned Parenthood has [accepted](#) donations to specifically fund the killing of Black babies. **If it were not for abortion, the Black community in America would be [35% larger](#) than it is now.**

Abortion is not “reproductive justice.” Abortion is not “pro-women.” Abortion is not “healthcare.” The future is anti-abortion because we know that abortion does a tremendous disservice to women and is the **greatest human injustice of our time**. As our elected officials and representation on Capitol Hill, it is your duty and responsibility to protect and serve the American people. We deserve better than abortion.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristan Hawkins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kristan Hawkins
President, Students for Life Action