

ANDREW S. CLYDE
9TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
521 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-9893

GAINESVILLE DISTRICT OFFICE
210 WASHINGTON STREET NW
SUITE 202
GAINESVILLE, GA 30501
(470) 768-6520

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1009

May 18, 2021

Mr. Robert Defenbaugh
313 Addington Dr
Toccoa, GA 30577

Dear Mr. Defenbaugh,

Knowing of your support for protecting the sanctity of life for our nation's innocent unborn children, I wanted to share with you some updates in the pro-life space from Washington, D.C. As you may have heard by now, the U.S. Supreme Court has decided to reconsider the outdated and harmful abortion precedent set by the *Roe v. Wade* case in 1973.

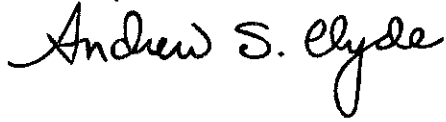
In short, the Supreme Court will review *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a case examining the constitutionality of Mississippi's pro-life law, the *Gestational Age Act*, which bans abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy. Based on a modern understanding of medical science, the High Court seeks to determine if certain abortion bans are still considered unconstitutional. Recent research, including that of the scientific article *Reconsidering Fetal Pain*, published in the peer reviewed *Journal of Medical Ethics* in January of 2020, has indicated that unborn children can feel pain as early as 13 weeks into a pregnancy – contrary to the scientific view in 1973. Considering the wealth and breadth of scientific knowledge and advancement over the last 48 years, I believe there is a strong body of evidence that will lead the Court to conclude that the *Roe* decision does not meet a legal test of constitutionality.

If the Supreme Court upholds Mississippi's pro-life law, it will set a new precedent to strengthen states' rights on the matter of state regulations limiting abortions. This is the first of many steps I hope to see during the 117th Congress, and I look forward to keeping you updated as the Court begins hearing the case this summer.

Additionally, I wanted to give you an update on H.R. 619, the "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act." If enacted, this bill will ensure that children who survive attempted abortions are given adequate medical care and are immediately transferred to a hospital to receive lifesaving care. I think you will be pleased to learn that I recently signed a discharge petition to immediately bring H.R. 619 to the House floor for a vote. A discharge petition is a tool used to bring a bill to the floor for a vote when it is being blocked by the Speaker of the House. If at any time during the 117th Congress the discharge petition obtains 218 signatures, the House will be forced to consider the "Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act." Currently, the discharge petition has 211 signatures.

It is great to know I have a partner in you as I continue to support and advance life-affirming legislation in the 117th Congress. If you have not already, please sign up for my newsletter at clyde.house.gov, and if there is anything I can do to be of service to you, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew S. Clyde". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "A".

Rep. Andrew Clyde
Member of Congress