



OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Majority Communications Department

For Immediate Release:
November 15, 2018

Rep. Perales Votes for “Heartbeat Bill”

HB 258 provides some of the nation’s strongest protections for the unborn

COLUMBUS—State Representative Perales (R-Greene County) today voted in favor of House Bill 258, otherwise known as the “Heartbeat Bill.” If signed into law, the legislation would put in place some of the nation’s strongest protections for the unborn.

The Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio estimates that the legislation could save the lives of 17,000 unborn children in the state.

The legislation, sponsored by Reps. Christina Hagan (R-Marlboro Township) and Ron Hood (R-Ashville), generally prohibits someone from performing an abortion once the unborn child’s fetal heartbeat is detected. While specific times can vary, fetal heartbeats in children are usually detected around six weeks.

Exceptions exist in the bill to protect the life and safety of the mother and other emergency situations. Physicians who induce or perform an abortion after a fetal heartbeat has been detected would be subject to a fifth-degree felony.

The bill also creates the Joint Legislative Committee on Adoption Promotion and Support, which will be dedicated to promoting adoption, as well as informing expecting mothers and families about available options for adoption.

House Bill 258 now awaits consideration in the Ohio Senate.

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For more information, please contact Rep. Perales