

Senator John Cornyn

Statement on Late-Term Abortion: Protecting Babies Born Alive and Capable of Feeling Pain

Mr. Chairman, thank you for calling this important hearing to discuss the need for legislation to require health care practitioners to render care to babies who survive attempted abortions and ban most elective abortions of pain-capable unborn children.

I appreciate the brave testimony we have heard today and am glad that this Committee has given a voice to those who have been personally affected by late-term abortions. As elected representatives, we have a moral responsibility to protect our most vulnerable, and to prioritize precious human life over death. The necessity to protect the life of a newborn child should be without question or controversy.

I am a proud cosponsor of two proposed bills currently being considered by this committee: the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act and the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Legislation is needed to ban late-term abortions with few exceptions, and also, to ensure newborns who survive attempted abortions are properly cared for by health care practitioners. These bills would accomplish just that, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle can unite behind the important legislation the committee is discussing today.

I hope that this hearing and the testimony of those personally affected by late-term abortions will send a clear message that we must ban most elective abortions of pain-capable unborn children and protect newborns who survive attempted abortions. I once again thank the Chairman for holding this hearing, and thank the witnesses for their testimony.