

Testimony before the House Health and Aging Committee
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My name is Anne Smead and I am a past president and current lobbyist for the League of Women Voters of Ohio. The League, since its inception in 1920, has worked, among other things, for equal rights and social reforms. The League believes strongly in the individual liberties guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The League is convinced that individual rights now protected by the Constitution should not be weakened or abridged.

The League studied our health care system in the 1990's and added strong positions that national health care policies should promote access to a basic level of quality care at an affordable cost for all. The highest priorities for a basic level of care include prevention of disease, health promotion and education, and primary care, which includes prenatal and reproductive health care.

League more precisely believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of the individual to make reproductive choices.

This legislation, HB 125, directly contradicts the tenets of *Roe v. Wade*, and it must not be enacted in Ohio.

The League of Women Voters opposes HB 125, and urges you to vote against it.

Thank you for your consideration.