

# APLC

ALABAMA PRO-LIFE COALITION, INC.

**To: Interested Persons**  
**Date: February 2023**  
**From: A. Eric Johnston**

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Last June SCOTUS ruled in *Dobbs* there is no abortion right in the U.S. Constitution and it is up to the states to individually determine the legal status of abortion. In anticipation of the overruling of *Roe v. Wade*, Alabama passed the Alabama Human Life Protection Act (AHLPA). It has limited strict medical exceptions and targets abortion clinics and abortionists. It does not prosecute women. Women have never been the objective of AHLPA. Women are victims of the callous disregard for human life pushed by the abortion industry and its Democrat political cohorts.

For almost fifty (50) years, the makeup of SCOTUS would not permit review of the constitutional basis of *Roe*. During that time, we requested laws to protect women from the substandard healthcare with no physician patient relationship. Alabama passed laws like the Women's Right to Know Act and the Women's Health and Safety Act. These laws had criminal penalties for clinics and doctors, but not women. Alabama is now stepping up through Pregnancy Resource Centers, churches, and other organizations and ministries to provide resources of every description to women who might otherwise have gotten an abortion. Abortion advocates simply cannot tolerate this.

Another area of concern is the ability of a woman to obtain abortion producing drugs from out of state. Such chemical abortions are also prohibited by the AHLPA, but since the woman cannot be prosecuted, she may buy the drugs from out of state and self-administer. If the drug provider is in another state, it can be prosecuted. If it comes from China, India or Mexico, it cannot. APLC is working on closing that gap. We hope to see new laws passed in the near future that will do that, but will not prosecute the woman. This infuriates purveyors of infant death. They cannot stop this, so all they can do is accuse and try to denigrate and destroy the credibility and sincerity of the pro-life position.

Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall commented recently on two issues related to abortion, but not directly related to each other. The first, is working to oppose the pro-death Biden Food and Drug Administration that intends to permit supply of abortifacients to all states. Biden publicly disregards our law, but Marshall will defend our law and we believe he will prevail. Marshall was also asked about whether Alabama's chemical endangerment law would apply to the abortifacients. That law criminalizes women who harm their unborn children by ingesting controlled substances like Meth, Cocaine, and Heroin. Marshall commented the law is not affected by the AHLPA and remains a deterrent to women using unlawful drugs. He made no suggestion at all that women will be prosecuted.

AL.com in a January 10, 2023 article, combined the two statements and concluded Marshall is going to prosecute women under the chemical endangerment law for taking abortifacients. Marshall refuted this the following day, yet AL.com still reported its erroneous conclusion and said he is trying to "walk back" what he said. Marshall was saying the AHLPA will not prohibit prosecution of women for ingesting unlawful drugs. He was not saying he will use that law to prosecute women who attempt to abort by taking an abortifacient. The misguided reporters have attempted to conflate two issues in order to discredit the pro-life position. This conclusion was picked up by the Guardian Newspaper on January 13:

"... Marshall... said he sees a path to prosecuting women [under the chemical endangerment law] for having abortions in his state. This was a bit of a faux pas: a moment of letting slip the mask that the anti-abortion movement always tries to keep on... [This] reveal[s] a new trend in the anti-abortion movement: abortion opponents are being increasingly frank about their own sadism... hurting women has always been the point."

Such "opinion reporting" mischaracterizes the pro-life movement. Writers use this to effect polls and the passage of laws that protect women and their children. AL.com must remain suspect as a news source. The Wall Street Journal published a letter to its readers about how it reports news:

"... reliable information is the most valuable currency of the epoch. A faulty news dispatch can ... cloud personal judgment and stifle nuanced societal debate. By contrast, reliable, unbiased, journalism, data and analysis can help determine the difference between good outcomes and bad ones."

The war on unborn lives has lasted fifty (50) years. We finally brought the issue back to a proper legal place. But, the war is not over.