



November 16, 2015

State Senator Cecil Thomas
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Senator Thomas,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the revocation of your endorsement from the Ohio Right to Life PAC. The Ohio Right to Life Board of Trustees made this decision in light of your votes against two of our organization's key legislative initiatives: the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (Senate Bill 127) and the de-funding of Planned Parenthood (Senate Bill 214).

In 2014, the Ohio Right to Life PAC endorsed you based on our candidate survey, your answers for which fell 100 percent in line with our mission to protect the innocent from the moment of conception until natural death. Your survey, which provided thorough, thoughtful, personal responses to our questions, left us without a doubt that you lived the pro-life mission. You reaffirmed our impression in your personal meetings with our leadership team. We endorsed you with the confidence that you would help lead the Ohio Senate in protecting the unborn. We endorsed you with the faith that you would help broaden our mission's bipartisan reach, acting as a voice for the unborn in the Democratic Party, a party which has not always been so hostile to our movement.

Last October, the Cincinnati Enquirer ran the following story: "Candidates 'pro-life' - until they ran in Dem district." Writer Chrissie Thompson quoted you as follows:

"I get a little concerned when I try to influence my personal thoughts on a woman. I'm not a woman. I haven't been a woman," said Thomas, a North Avondale Democrat. He acknowledged he calls himself "pro-life," but said when voting on abortion restrictions, "I would support my Democratic constituents."

Your pro-life constituents were left flummoxed. You added,

"My family and I have always considered abortion as wrong. I've always followed the passage in the book of Jeremiah ... 'Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.' ... I thank God that Mary didn't abort Jesus!! And I thank God my mother didn't abort me!!"

Says he supports the reversal of Roe v. Wade; legislation to ban abortion from fertilization to birth, except if the mother's life is in danger or if the pregnancy was a result of rape or incest; and all other abortion-related positions the PAC takes.

In June 2015, you voted against Senate Bill 127, which protects unborn babies from being aborted at the point at which they can feel pain (around 20 weeks gestation). Despite your endorsement, despite your proclaimed pro-life convictions, and despite your proclaimed support for reversing *Roe*, you voted nay.

In July 2015, a pro-life organization began releasing undercover videos of Planned Parenthood directors negotiating prices for aborted fetal hearts, brains, livers and lungs. The ongoing scandal inspired a reawakening among pro-lifers and questioning among lifelong pro-choicers. Our legislation to de-fund the organization was introduced by a bipartisan team in the Ohio House, and by the Senate President in your chamber. Despite the intense scrutiny Planned Parenthood has received since July, you spoke on behalf of Planned Parenthood and voted nay.

It is with great disappointment that the Ohio Right to Life PAC revokes your endorsement. While Ohio Right to Life will always welcome your alliance in efforts to protect the vulnerable, we cannot in good faith endorse your time in office following the betrayal of our endorsement and the broader pro-life mission.

We sincerely invite you to meet with our leadership and to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider how you can direct your time in office towards protecting the rights of every human person, born and unborn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MP', is positioned above the typed name of the signatory.

Marshal Pitchford, Chairman