

Are You Encouraging Childbirth Over Abortion?

In Pennsylvania, abortions are permitted as far into a pregnancy as 24 weeks and 6 days. At this stage a baby would likely survive on their own. This limit became law in 1989, at a time when doctors typically did not treat a baby born before 23–24 weeks because of the slim chance of survival. Thanks to medical advancements, premature babies are now surviving at record rates¹, premature babies like Lydia and Will, two children who were born prematurely and are now thriving!

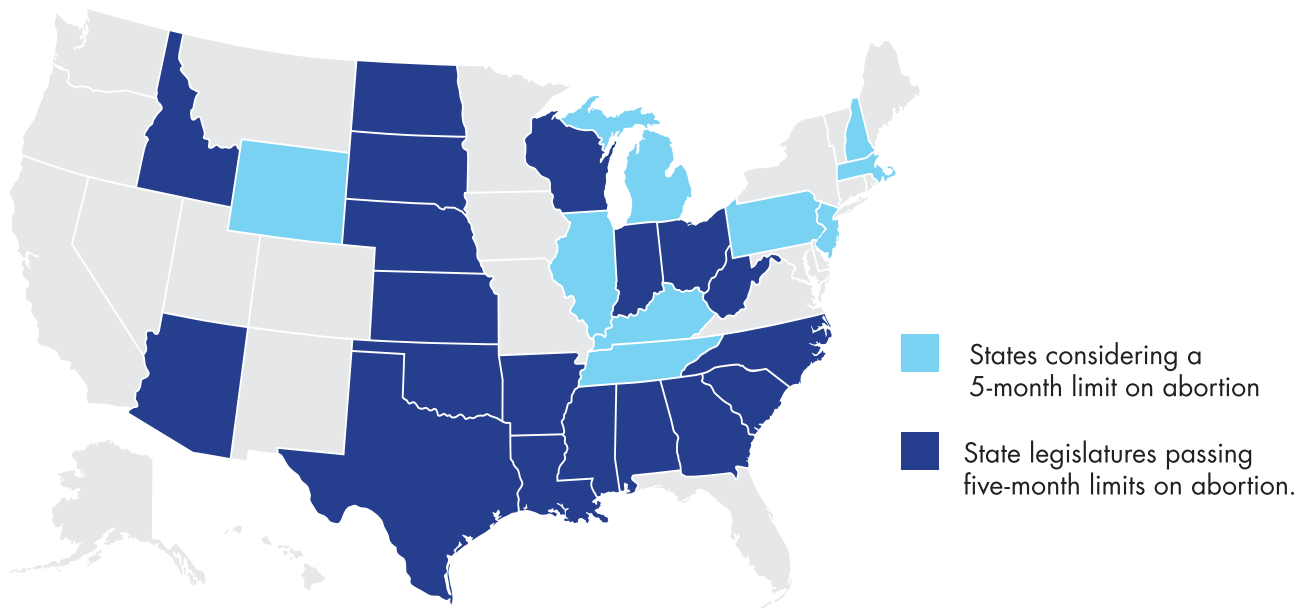


Meet Lydia, a 3-year-old from Central PA. Lydia was born at 25 weeks, right now the first day in Pennsylvania when an abortion is considered illegal. If Lydia was born 5 hours earlier, she could have been legally aborted.



Meet Will, a 12-year-old straight-A student from Pittsburgh. Will was born at 24 weeks, 6 days - right now the last legal day in Pennsylvania a woman can elect to have an abortion.

¹ Dr. Dennis Muijsce, Penn State Milton Hershey Medical Center – babies born at 25 weeks have an 80-85% chance at survival, 60-65% chance at 24 weeks and 33% chance at 23 weeks.



“The common and statutory law of Pennsylvania shall be construed so as to extend to the unborn the equal protection of the laws and to further the public policy of this Commonwealth **encouraging childbirth over abortion.**” – PA Abortion Control Act (*emphasis added*)

Five Reasons to Support HB 1948 & SB 888

1. The United States is one of only seven nations that allow elective late-term abortion past five months of pregnancy. Only North Korea, China, Vietnam, Singapore, Netherlands, Canada and the USA.
2. Poll after poll show most Americans support limiting abortion to 20 weeks.²
3. There is a significant increase in complications and mortality with women who have abortion at higher gestations; especially past 20 weeks.³
4. The use of the barbaric D&E procedure is already down 55% in Pennsylvania since 2010 and carries significant risk to the health of the mother.
5. Babies born as early as 22 weeks are surviving on their own and at record rates.

Have Compassion – End Late-Term & Dismemberment Abortions

² Quinnipiac: 60% (Nov. 2014), Gallup: 64% prohibiting 2nd trimester abortions, 80% prohibiting 3rd trimester abortions (Jan. 2013), Huffington Post: 59% (July 2013), ABC News: 60% (July 2013), Meeting Street Research: 59% of all Pennsylvania voters (January 2015)

³ L.A. Bartlett et al., Risk factors for legal induced abortion-related mortality in the United States, *Obstetrics & Gynecology* 103(4): 729-37 (2004) - A woman seeking an abortion at 20 weeks is 35 times more likely to die from abortion than she was in the first trimester. At 21 weeks or more, the risk jumps to 91 times more likely to die from abortion than in the 1st trimester.