December \_\_\_, 2021

The Honorable

Tallahassee, FL

Re: Opposition to HB 167

Dear Senator/Representative (Last Name):

My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and I am a member/supporter of the Business and Professional Women of St. Petersburg/Pinellas (BPW/SPP), a local chapter of the Florida Federation of Business and Professional Women’s Clubs, Inc. (BPW/FL), a 100+ year old organization. Our mission is to advocate for women professionally, personally, and politically.

The 4th plank of BPW’s Public Policy Platform is **Health Care**. The platform states, in part, that our organization “... supports legislation that ensures reproductive choice and full access to all reproductive health education and services, including prescriptions.” In this regard, I wanted to voice my opposition to House Bill 167 “Abortion”. For far too long, men have been making the decisions regarding laws pertaining to women as it relates to personal decisions about reproductive choice. If this measure passes it will effectively eliminate the ability of any woman to receive an abortion in the State of Florida. The current law, which is governed by *Roe vs Wade* allows that viability for a fetus (not an unborn child) is 22 weeks is also supported medically[[1]](#footnote-1). While medical technology has come a long way, it is still not viable for a fetus to survive outside of the womb before 23 to 24 weeks of gestation[[2]](#footnote-2). **Reproductive** **justice (choice) should be a cornerstone of women’s rights in Florida,** not a criminal offense whereby a complete stranger can sue another citizen for simply making the choice that is right for a woman and her family.

I would ask that you vote in opposition of HB 167 and am hopeful that you will respond with your thoughts and your vote as it relates to HB 167.

Sincerely,

Name

Address

1. [Babies born at 22 weeks 'can now survive' - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-50144741) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [What is the age of viability? (findanyanswer.com)](https://findanyanswer.com/what-is-the-age-of-viability) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)