

## Please Support Senate Bill 8

July 22, 2017

Dear Members of the Senate Business and Commerce Committee:

We thank you for considering SB 8 by Senator Creighton to protect taxpayers and individuals who pay health insurance premiums from paying for elective abortions against their wishes.

We strongly support this bill, and we urge you to favorably pass it out of committee.

This bill continues the longstanding policy of the State of Texas to promote childbirth and to not promote abortion as a method of birth control. For example, the most recent Appropriations Act, SB 1, has numerous provisions to implement this policy, including funding to promote the Alternatives to Abortion program and several riders to limit public funding for abortions, abortion providers, and affiliates of abortion providers.

We point out that SB 8 allows a person who wants coverage for elective abortion to purchase optional or supplemental coverage for abortion.

At least twenty-five states have already passed laws that limit abortion coverage in public or private insurance plans, and we urge Texas to join them.

Most sincerely,

Joe Pojman, Ph.D. Executive Director