



Heal Without Harm

ETHICAL RESEARCH COALITION

Heal Without Harm is a coalition of organizations and citizens dedicated to working with the scientific community to encourage it toward ethical research. The coalition is composed of member organizations, including: Wisconsin Right to Life, Wisconsin Catholic Conference, Wisconsin Family Action and Pro-Life Wisconsin, among others.



Heal Without Harm Coalition Memo

Dear Members of the Assembly/Senate,

At the end of the 2015-2016 Legislative Session significant efforts were made to address the fact that baby body parts were being sold and used for research in Wisconsin. While these legislative efforts were not successful, it was evident that this issue would need to be addressed again in the 2017-2018 Legislative Session.

The Heal Without Harm Coalition comprised of Pro Life Wisconsin, Wisconsin Catholic Conference, Wisconsin Family Action and Wisconsin Right to Life has been working on this issue since the summer of 2016 to explore language for legislation that would end the sale and use of abortion-derived baby body parts while also promoting ethical alternatives in research.

Our coalition's goal isn't to regulate the sale and use of abortion-derived baby body parts; rather, we aim to hold our state to a higher ethical standard that ensures there never is a demand for aborted baby body parts and abortion.

Wisconsin is renowned for pioneering successful and innovative research, and it is imperative that our continued success relies on ethical sources.

The Heal Without Harm Coalition has been working on a package of legislation that will address the sale and use of baby body parts, as well as the proper disposition of aborted babies. The package of legislation encourages alternative, ethical methods of obtaining fetal tissue from miscarried and stillborn babies. These ethical sources produce results and do not rely upon the purposeful dismemberment of a living unborn child.

You should also be well aware of the U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee's Select Investigative Panel report. This report came out after a year-long investigation into the abortion industry.

2/7/17

The full report can be found at:

https://energycommerce.house.gov/sites/republicans.energycommerce.house.gov/files/documents/Sellect_Investigative_Panel_Final_Report.pdf

This issue is too grave for us to simply kick the can down the road and regulate the baby body parts industry. We must take complete action to make Wisconsin the gold standard of what can happen when we invest in ethical, successful research and uphold reasonable ethical standards within our research community.

We look forward to working with the members in the Assembly and Senate in passing legislation that will ensure Wisconsin is an attractive state to come to for ethical research.

Regards,

The Heal Without Harm Coalition