

November 9, 2020

The Honorable Mike DeWine
Governor of State of Ohio
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Dear Governor DeWine:

The member organizations of the Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio (RTLACO) are dedicated to protecting all human life, including the unborn, the elderly, and the infirm.

The Director of the Department of Health is an administrative position that critically impacts Pro-life matters throughout the State of Ohio.

We are compelled to withdraw our Pro-Life Endorsement and issue a Vote of No Confidence in your leadership and in that of Lt. Governor Jon Husted due to your negligence in protecting our most susceptible Ohioans. Your unconscionable actions include:

a. Selecting Dr. Amy Acton and Dr. Joan Duwve to lead the Ohio Department of Health; their backgrounds and experience indicate sympathies to the goals of Planned Parenthood and Partners in Health. Your selections signify a lack of due diligence.

b. Your administration's silence and inaction when Dr. Amy Acton re-issued a license to Women's Med Center (Dr. Martin Haskell) of Dayton, after the Ohio Supreme Court ruled its revocation was legal and binding.

c. Before you selected Dr. Acton, you requested our organization to provide you with potential candidates for the Ohio Department of Health, Director; qualified candidates were presented for your consideration and yet they were not seriously interviewed.

d. During the statewide shutdown, abortion mills were permitted to remain open exposing vulnerable women to coronavirus as hospital outpatient surgeries were cancelled and restaurants, bars, churches and small businesses were forced to close. Your health department did not seek enforcement of the Cease and Desist order from Attorney General Yost thus allowing abortion providers to blatantly ignore the order.

e. Your failure to protect Ohio's most vulnerable citizens, including the unborn, resulted in a visible increase of pregnant women at abortion facilities, a surge in telehealth abortions, an escalation of suicides and drug abuse, and the merciless isolation of our elderly and infirm from family and loved ones.

The Pro-life communities in Ohio have been betrayed. We are withdrawing our Pro-Life endorsement and issuing a Vote of No Confidence in your leadership and in that of Lt. Governor Jon Husted.

Respectfully,

Molly Smith, President
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio
President, Cleveland Right to Life

Margie Christie, Past President
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio
Executive Director, Dayton Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Jacqui Fetsko, Treasurer
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio
Executive Director, Lake County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Robert Tuttle, Board Member
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio

Piroska Papp, Board Member
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio
President, Fostoria Bascom Pro Life Group
RTLACO Member

Pastor *Walter Moss*, Board Member
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio
President, Black ProLife Coalition

Robert Zellers, President
Hancock County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

John Ciarrone, President
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Wayne Staszal, Director
Williams County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Linda Theis, President-Elect
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio

Jeffrey C. Barefoot, J.D., CPA, CFP
Vice President, RTLACO
President, Greater Toledo Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Meg DeBlase, Chair
Legislative Review & Analysis Task Force
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio

Jeannine Jones, Board Member
Right to Life Action Coalition of Ohio
Secretary, Cleveland Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Edward Sitter, Executive Director
Greater Toledo Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Betsy Jacquez, Executive Director
Mater Filius Queen City
RTLACO Member

Linda Harwey, President
Mission America
RTLACO Member

Catherine Schmidt, President
Ashtabula County Friends for Life
RTLACO Member

John Hugman, President
Huron County Right to Life Society
RTLACO Member

Diane Moyer, President
Tiffin Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Cathe Hammer, Vice President
Tiffin Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Peter Corrigan, Board Member
Cleveland Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Patricia Sumen, Member
ICSJ Respect Life Ministry
RTLACO Member

Pastor ***Ernie Sanders***, President
Geauga County Right to Life
President, WRWL Ministries
RTLACO Member

Laura Strietmann
Curriculum Consultant
Ruah Woods
RTLACO Member

Laurie Hubach, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Doris Peters, President
Suburban West Right to Life
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Dan Kaighin, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Steve Stoldt, Advisory Board
Lake County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

John DeLaat, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Sue Urban, Advisory Board
Lake County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Kathy Sherrill, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Therese Fetsko, Treasurer
Lake County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Dorothy Kaighin, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Ed Wacker, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Liz Kent, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Joe Wing, Board Member
Lorain County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Colleen Phillips, Founding Member
Henry County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Dr. Mark Hamilton, Chairman
Institute for Principled Policy
RTLACO Member

Karen Schwiebert, President
Henry County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

Denver Sallee, President
Lake County Right to Life
RTLACO Member

cc: Lt. Governor Jon Husted; Senate President Larry Obhof; Speaker, Ohio House Robert Cupp