



Jeff Plale

State Representative
21st Assembly District

December 21, 1999

The Honorable Gary George, Chairman
Senate Committee on the Judiciary & Consumer Affairs
The State Capitol
Room 118 South
HAND DELIVERED

Dear Senator *George*:

I am writing to request your consideration of Assembly Bill 324, the "Conscience Clause Bill." I would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this legislation with you and your committee at your next public hearing and would respectfully request that you schedule it for executive action as quickly as possible. I am proud to be a co-author this legislation to better respect the individual moral and religious beliefs of health care providers who, like myself, believe in the sanctity of all human life.

As you likely already know, this legislation would simply prohibit employers from discriminating against an employee who, based upon moral objections, declines to participate in certain controversial activities such as abortions, assisted suicide and sterilization. The prohibitions are consistent with other conscience-based protections for some health care and other professionals that are currently in the statutes. Moreover, this legislation would in no way prohibit these activities or interfere with the rights of other individuals to seek them. It would simply ensure that those employees with strong personal convictions against these limited procedures could not be forced to violate their moral and/or religious precepts as a condition of their employment.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I look forward to discussing this matter with you and your committee in the near future. As always, please feel free to give us call should you have any questions or concerns about this or any other matter.

Sincerely yours,


Jeff Plale
State Representative
21st Assembly

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