

U.S. Rep. Grothman: Protects unborn children from late-term abortions

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(Washington, D.C.) – Congressman Glenn Grothman (R-Glenbeulah) yesterday voted in favor of the bipartisan Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act ([H.R. 36](#)), of which he is a cosponsor.

Science increasingly confirms that unborn babies feel pain by at least 20 weeks post-fertilization. H.R. 36 makes elective abortions on unborn babies 20 weeks post-fertilization or older illegal, except in cases of rape or incest, or to protect the life of the mother.

In Wisconsin, Gov. Scott Walker signed a similar bill into law in 2015. Wisconsin's Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act prohibits abortions of unborn children after 20 weeks post-fertilization.

“Late-term abortion is not only painful for the mother, but there’s more and more evidence that it’s painful for the child as well,” **said Grothman**. “With this vote, we protected some of the most vulnerable members of our society from excruciating pain.”

The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of **237-189**.

Background

Currently, the U.S. is one of only seven countries in the world, including North Korea and China, where elective, late-term abortions are legal.

A 2017 Marist poll found that 74 percent of Americans favor restrictions on abortions, and more than half of Americans support a ban on abortions that take place after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

This bill would seek to hold abortion providers accountable by punishing them for performing illegal late-term abortions, but it would not punish the women who have the abortions.