

House Judiciary Ranking Member Doug Collins
Statement for the Record
Minority Hearing on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act

We must cultivate compassion and practical support for women who find themselves pregnant under difficult or oppressive circumstances, and we must protect the most defenseless humans among us. Is there anyone more vulnerable than a child who has just survived an abortion and finds herself surrounded by the very medical professionals who just tried to kill her? While most Americans would understand that killing or allowing a child to die outside the womb is heinous, there are some in the abortion industry who—sadly—wouldn't take life-saving steps to protect a child who survives an abortion despite the abortionist's best efforts.

In the case of an abortion or attempted abortion that results in a child's live birth, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would require any health care practitioner present to deliver the same degree of professional care to preserve the life of the child as he or she would give to any other child born alive at the same gestational age.

The bill would require medical professionals to immediately take and admit the baby to a hospital, and individuals are subject to five years in jail if they allow a child to die after botching efforts to murder her.

If, as abortionists have done after live deliveries, someone cuts open a child for its body parts or takes some other overt act to kill the child, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act would prosecute that person for first degree murder—punishable by life in prison or the death penalty. Babies who survive attempts to kill them in utero aren't fair game for medical research or any other rationale abortionists might provide for killing them. To further protect newborns who find themselves at the mercy of abortionists, the bill requires people to report any known violations of its provisions.

The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act also allows a woman to file a civil lawsuit if her live baby isn't treated with the care and respect required by the bill. Finally, under the bill, no woman upon whom an abortion has been performed can be prosecuted in any way. This bill is designed to care for the vulnerable when the abortion industry has the most power to harm them, and that includes babies and their mothers.

We need the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act in part because Planned Parenthood employees perform some forty percent of all abortions each year, but there is evidence people may be unwilling to care for babies born during failed abortions. Videos of their representatives have revealed their discussions of cases in which, during the course of an attempted abortion, a baby is born "intact." As one doctor said, "Sometimes . . . if someone delivers before we get to see them for a procedure, then they [the babies] are intact. But that's not what we go for."

According to a Planned Parenthood executive, "If you had intact cases, which we've done a lot, we sometimes ship those back to our lab in its entirety." A procurement manager said, "I

literally have had women come in[,] and they'll go in the OR [the operating room], and they're back out in three minutes, and I'm going 'What's going on?' 'Oh yeah, the fetus was already in the vaginal canal whenever we put her in the stirrups. It just fell out.'"

In case anyone would pretend that a baby who has been delivered alive doesn't deserve medical care, a former Planned Parenthood employee told investigators that she was shown the results of one abortion by a doctor. As she recalls, "This is the most gestated fetus and the closest thing to a baby I've seen . . . and she [the doctor] taps the heart and it starts beating . . . The nodes were still firing[,] and I don't know if that means it's technically dead or it's alive. It had a face. It wasn't completely torn up. Its nose was very pronounced. It had eyelids . . . Since the fetus was so intact[,] she said[,] 'Ok, well, this is a really good fetus[,] and it looks like we can procure a lot from it. We're going to procure a brain . . . That means we're going to have to cut the head open . . . She takes a scissors and she makes a small incision right here [at the chin] and goes, I would say, maybe a little bit through the mouth, and she's like, "Ok, can you go the rest of the way? . . . And so[,] she gave me the scissors and told me that I have to cut down the middle of the face. And I can't even describe what that feels like."¹

These accounts are clear and horrifying. Congress must move immediately to protect any children born alive during the course of a failed abortion.

Previously, the House Judiciary Committee heard direct testimony from women who, as babies, survived attempted abortions. Planned Parenthood advised Gianna Jessen's mother to have an abortion, but, as [Ms. Jessen testified](#), "Instead of dying, after 18 hours of being burned in my mother's womb, I was delivered alive in an abortion clinic in Los Angeles on April 6, 1977." Her medical records state clearly that she was "born alive" during an abortion. Ms. Jessen continued, "Thankfully, the abortionist was not at work yet. Had he been there, he would have ended my life with strangulation, suffocation, or leaving me there to die. Instead, a nurse called an ambulance, and I was rushed to a hospital. Doctors did not expect me to live. I did."

Without medical care, Ms. Jessen wouldn't have survived the effects of the saline abortion that was designed to kill her. Other children born alive also need medical support that, without the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, they might not receive. Protecting life is the cornerstone of all other liberties, and even the youngest children—*especially* the youngest, most helpless children—among us deserve the protection that every adult expects for themselves under our Constitution.

¹ Links to these videos can be found here: <http://www.centerformedicalprogress.org/cmp/investigative-footage/> (Ginde quote: 2:13 (of 11:29), released July 30, 2015; Dyer quote: 0:15 (of 09:43), released Aug. 25, 2015; Larton quote: 5:01 (of 9:10), released Sept. 1, 2015); and here: <http://www.centerformedicalprogress.org/human-capital/documentary-web-series/> (O'Donnell quote: 4:14 (of 10:37), released Aug. 19, 2015).

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Name of Child
Gianna [REDACTED]

Part IA, The Infant - Birth Facts

Birth Date 4/6/77	Time 6:00 a.m.	Full Term <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Pregnancy (months) 29; week gestation
Weight at Birth 1260 grams	Length at Birth 39 cm	Measurements (infants) in inches Head -	Chest - Abdomen -
Delivery Date	Spontaneous <input type="checkbox"/>	Forceps <input type="checkbox"/>	Pre-natal - Duration of Labor -
APGAR Score at 1 Minute -	APGAR Score at 5 minutes -	Resuscitation Required <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, how long?

Complications of Birth, including any birth injury to child
Born during Saline abortion
 Transferred to [REDACTED] upon birth where she remained until discharge 4/6/77.

Medical record of Gianna Jessen, showing she was "born during ... abortion."