

STATE OF OHIO  
**Executive Department**

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*Columbus*

**VETO MESSAGE**

**STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE VETO OF  
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 258**

**December 21, 2018**

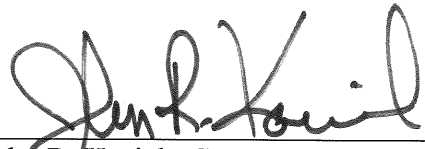
Pursuant to Article II, Section 16, of the Ohio Constitution, which states that the Governor may disapprove of any bill, I hereby disapprove of Substitute House Bill 258 (Sub. H.B. 258) and set forth the following reasons for so doing.

As governor I have worked hard to strengthen Ohio's protections for the sanctity of human life, and I have a deep respect for my fellow members of the pro-life community and their ongoing efforts in defense of unborn life. However, the central provision of Sub. H.B. 258, that an abortion cannot be performed if a heartbeat has been detected in the unborn child, is contrary to the Supreme Court of the United States' current rulings on abortion. Because the lower federal courts are bound to follow the U.S. Supreme Court's precedents on abortion, Sub. H.B. 258 will likely be struck down as unconstitutional. The State of Ohio will be the losing party in that lawsuit and, as the losing party, the State of Ohio will be forced to pay hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars to cover the legal fees for the pro-choice activists' lawyers. Therefore, this veto is in the public interest.

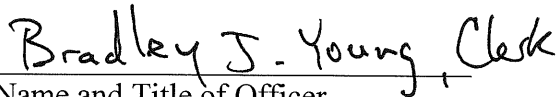
For these reasons, I am vetoing Substitute House Bill 258.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Ohio to be affixed at Columbus this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December Two Thousand Eighteen.

  
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John R. Kasich, Governor

This will acknowledge the receipt of a copy of this veto message of Substitute House Bill 258 that was disapproved by Governor John R. Kasich on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Title of Officer

12/21/2018 3:15 p.m.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date and Time of Receipt