

Action Alert: Contact Senator Riepe

We urgently need your help protecting babies with beating hearts!

On March 16, Senator Merve Riepe filed a distressing amendment to LB626. We need all supporters to contact him and respectfully ask him to withdraw his amendment and fully support LB626 The Nebraska Heartbeat Act.

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In an unexpected turn of events, **Senator Merv Riepe of District 12**, a co-sponsor of LB626 filed an amendment that would allow *abortions up to 12 weeks of gestation and allow abortion of babies who are diagnosed with a fetal anomaly*. This amendment would protect the lives of approximately 300 babies per year, compared to the Nebraska Heartbeat Act which was written to stop abortions once a heartbeat can be detected and would save more than 2,000 lives a year. The Nebraska Heartbeat Act (LB626) would require an ultrasound be performed before an abortion to listen for a baby's heartbeat. If a heartbeat is detected, an abortion may not be performed. It allows exceptions for rape, incest, or in the event of a medical emergency. *Until Wednesday, we had exactly the 33 votes needed to pass LB 626, the life-saving Nebraska Heartbeat Act.* **Senator Joni Albrecht**, sponsor of the bill, expressed surprise and disappointment by Senator Riepe's amendment, saying the loss of his vote for cloture could put LB 626 at risk of falling to a filibuster from abortion rights advocates. **Lives are at stake, and we are urgently asking you to speak up. We believe Senator Riepe's mind and heart can be changed by respectful and courteous, yet firm, correspondence.**

Senator Merv Riepe, a former hospital executive, completed our 2022 Nebraska Right to Life Voter Guide stating he *is in favor of protecting preborn babies from conception, with no exceptions*. He also is on the Health and Human Services Committee and **voted to advance LB626** from committee to the full Legislature after sitting through *7 full hours of of testimony for and against LB626*. He has not confirmed that he would vote for LB626 if the amendment fails. **Please write or call Senator Riepe to respectfully share your concerns and ask him to withdraw the amendment and fully support LB626.**



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