

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 586

To provide that human life shall be deemed to begin with fertilization.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 17, 2017

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LONG, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. WOODALL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide that human life shall be deemed to begin with fertilization.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Sanctity of Human
5 Life Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DECLARATION.**

7 In the exercise of the powers of the Congress, includ-
8 ing Congress’ power under article I, section 8 of the Con-

1 stitution, to make necessary and proper laws, and Con-
2 gress' power under section 5 of the 14th article of amend-
3 ment to the Constitution of the United States—

4 (1) the Congress declares that—

5 (A) the right to life guaranteed by the
6 Constitution is vested in each human being, and
7 is the paramount and most fundamental right
8 of a person; and

9 (B) the life of each human being begins
10 with fertilization, cloning, or its functional
11 equivalent, irrespective of sex, health, function
12 or disability, defect, stage of biological develop-
13 ment, or condition of dependency, at which time
14 every human being shall have all the legal and
15 constitutional attributes and privileges of
16 personhood; and

17 (2) the Congress affirms that the Congress,
18 each State, the District of Columbia, and all United
19 States territories have the authority to protect the
20 lives of all human beings residing in its respective
21 jurisdictions.

22 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

23 For purposes of this Act:

24 (1) FERTILIZATION.—The term “fertilization”
25 means the process of a human spermatozoan pene-

1 trating the cell membrane of a human oocyte to cre-
2 ate a human zygote, a one-celled human embryo,
3 which is a new unique human being.

4 (2) CLONING.—The term “cloning” means the
5 process called somatic cell nuclear transfer, that
6 combines an enucleated egg and the nucleus of a so-
7 matic cell to make a human embryo.

8 (3) HUMAN; HUMAN BEING.—The terms
9 “human” and “human being” include each and
10 every member of the species homo sapiens at all
11 stages of life, beginning with the earliest stage of de-
12 velopment, created by the process of fertilization,
13 cloning, or its functional equivalent.

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