**Ohio Heartbeat Bill HB 258 moves along in Senate hearings**

Several protestant and evangelical ministers testified but [there was] no presence of the Catholic Church. No [Catholic] bishops, priests, religious, or lay representatives of any of the six dioceses in our state. I think we also have [three] eparchies of the eastern Rite church [Ruthenian, Ukrainian and Romanian Byzantine] in Cleveland [and Canton], which [are the equivalent of dioceses in the *sui juris* Eastern Rite churches].

So, out of [ nine] dioceses or eparchies, no Catholic representation. There were Baptist ministers and evangelical ministers there but no Catholic clergy or religious or lay officials of the Catholic Church in Ohio.

I was a bit embarrassed to have to stand there after the hearing and listen to the ministers saying they want the Catholic Church to get into the fight to pass things like the Heartbeat [Bill].

Meg Whitmer from Cincinnati Right to Life said that the Catholic [Bishops] Conference of Ohio is being active about immigration matters but not about the heartbeat bill.

Adapted from:

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