Today, the Heal Without Harm (HWH) Coalition, along with medical researchers and grassroots activists from all four major pro-life organizations in the state of Wisconsin, testified in support of the Heal Without Harm Legislative Initiative at the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety’s public hearing for SB 423, SB 424, and SB 422.

The Heal Without Harm Legislative Initiative consists of two complementary bills, the Fetal Remains Respect Act (SB 423/AB 549) and the Unborn Child Disposition and Anatomical Gift Act (SB 424/AB 550), authored by Sen. Terry Moulton (R-Chippewa Falls) and Rep. Joel Kleefisch (R-Oconomowoc).

At the public hearing, the HWH Coalition stated that, “... the Heal Without Harm Initiative can make a lasting positive impact on the state. Senate Bills 423 and 424, along with their companions, Assembly Bill 549 and 550, will ensure that in Wisconsin, no researcher need operate under a cloud of controversy and no patient need to choose life over conscience.”

The HWH Coalition continued, highlighting that, “These two bills represent a compromise, and a holistic solution to creating an ethical research environment in Wisconsin,” by including no criminal penalties and exempting already existing cell lines from the ban on fetal tissue. Further, the Heal Without Harm Legislative Initiative ensures, “that our state can build on its lead in biotechnology without compromising its bioethics,” by promoting the donation of ethical fetal tissue derived from natural loss such as miscarriage or stillbirth.

Finally, the HWH Coalition concluded by emphasizing, “With limited floor periods left this year, and leadership in both chambers indicating that there will be an early end to session, the Heal Without Harm Coalition understands that time is short for these bills to be successful.”

Wisconsinites are encouraged to contact their State Senators and ask them to ensure the Heal Without Harm Legislative Initiative is passed out of committee as soon as possible.

Contact:
Wisconsin Right to Life
Heather Weininger
hweininger@wrtl.org
414-778-5780

Wisconsin Catholic Conference
Barbara Sella
barbara@wisconsincatholic.org
608-257-0004

Wisconsin Family Action
Julaine Appling
jkappling@wifamilyaction.org
608-334-6435

Pro-Life Wisconsin
Matt Sande
matt.s@prolifewi.org
262-352-0890