The <u>"Care for Women, Children, and Families Act"</u> is comprehensive healthcare legislation that restricts elective abortions after the first trimester of pregnancy (12 weeks.)

- The bill will make the following changes to North Carolina's pro-life laws:
 - Limit elective abortions in the second and third trimesters
 - Establish an exception for rape and incest through 20 weeks
 - Establish an exception for fetal life-limiting anomalies through 24 weeks
 - *The law maintains <u>current statute</u> with an exception to save the life of the mother.
- New healthcare standards included in the bill will require all clinics that
 perform surgical abortions to meet the same standards as ambulatory
 surgical centers, and that any abortions performed after the first trimester
 must be performed in hospitals.
- The legislation establishes new standards for healthcare facilities that perform abortions, support women entering motherhood with new healthcare reforms, and penalize those who illegally distribute abortioninducing drugs and break any new healthcare standards.
- Doctors must provide care to babies that survive a botched procedure.
- Abortions based on a baby's sex, race, or Down syndrome are prohibited.
- Current law requiring that abortion-inducing drugs must be administered in person by a doctor is maintained.
- An extensive informed consent process must be completed in person, 72 hours prior to any surgical or medical abortion.

- Several criminal provisions are included to help care for and protect women and children.
- It will be a Class D felony and a \$250,000 fine for any physician that does not care for babies born alive following a botched procedure.
- Any person or organization caught mailing, supplying, or providing abortion-inducing drugs to a woman is subject to a \$5,000 fine per violation.
- There will be a \$5,000 fine per violation for illegally advertising abortion-inducing drugs to women.
- The criminal punishment for assaults on pregnant women will be increased, and a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence will be created.
- 10-year GPS monitoring for certain repeat and violent sexual offenders will increase to lifetime monitoring.
- The new limitations included in the "Care for Women, Children, and Families Act" align with the preferences of the majority of North Carolinians.
- <u>Recent polling shows</u> that 57% of North Carolinians support legislation to prohibit abortions after the first trimester with exceptions for rape, incest, and when the life of the mother is in danger.
- We used to have a culture so unequivocally reliant on science, but today there are many who turn a blind eye to the science that tells us a human is a person before they're born.
- Studies of fetal development, improved medical techniques, and other advances tell us that the unborn baby is indeed a human, deserving of protection.

- When the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Roe v. Wade*, it pegged most fetuses' chance of viable life outside the womb at 28 weeks.
- Science and medical advancements continue to extend viability outside the womb.
- This means an unborn child is a distinct human life deserving of protection.
- The unborn are the most vulnerable among us.
- Democrat abortion policies (up until birth) are extreme and violent. Governor Roy Cooper even vetoed Born Alive bill, etc. Out of touch with mainstream.
- Nearly two-thirds of North Carolina voters support protecting unborn children by at least 12 weeks, according to a poll by Differentiator Data.
 - Only 22% of voters agree with allowing abortion up until birth, the position held by Gov. Roy Cooper and Attorney General Josh Stein.
- We're giving women more options. They deserve better.
- A child is not a punishment. Every individual has a fundamental human right to be born.
- Rape: in the wake of such violence against a woman, both victims the woman and her child — deserve our unconditional support.
- We choose to support and empower women rather than abandon them.
- Guttmacher Institute statistics show that many of the reasons a woman feels she must have an abortion are often financial or emotional and she would choose differently if she had more options.s

- Women deserve better than abortion- we can give them better care, a stronger economy and more resources to parent if she chooses to do so.
- True feminism demands justice for all, especially those most vulnerable.
- Women are capable of overcoming the unexpected, and making nonviolent choices. We need to support their life-affirming choices—including adoption options as well as marital or single parenthood.

The bill includes the following financial provisions, among others:

- \$75 million to expand access to child care
- Over \$16 million (including federal matching funds) to reduce infant and maternal mortality
- \$20 million to pay for maternity and paternity leave for teachers and state employees
- Nearly \$59 million (not including federal matching funds) for foster care, kinship care, and children's homes
- \$7 million to increase access to long-lasting, reversible birth control for underserved, uninsured, or medically indigent patients
- \$3 million to help mothers and fathers complete community college