



DOES S323 THE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT SUBJECT WOMEN TO THE DEATH PENALTY?

October 5, 2025

On two separate occasions, SC Citizens for Life issued public statements claiming The Unborn Child Protection Acts (S323) “subjects post-aborted women to the death penalty.” Even after we issued our public correction to their original statement¹, they issued their second false statement via email on October 1, 2025, the day of the first public hearing for S323.

We will again demonstrate from S323 itself how badly SCCL is misrepresenting the language regarding potential criminal penalties. S323 states clearly, unequivocally:

*“(G) A person who violates this section is guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, **must be imprisoned for not more than thirty years** if the unborn child dies as a result of the violation or for not more than twenty-five years if the unborn child is born alive despite the violation.”²*

Furthermore, S323 also has controlling language ensuring no other provision of law can change the maximum penalty of 30 years in prison:

“(c) in the event of a conflict with any other provision of law, the provisions contained in this section shall prevail.”³

So, why is SCCL being so stubbornly irresponsible with their obviously false claim that S323 subjects women to the death penalty? Why not admit the error and tell the truth about S323? Sadly, this kind of misleading messaging reminds us of Planned Parenthood hatchet jobs. All the citizens for life in SC deserve better much better, especially from such a respected, influential, accomplished, and established organization like SCCL.

With all due respect to South Carolina Citizens for Life, with gratitude for their decades of effort for our SC neighbors inside their mothers, and with deep longing for Pro-Life unity based upon the truth:

**WE CALL ON SOUTH CAROLINA CITIZENS FOR LIFE TO IMMEDIATELY
ISSUE A PRESS RELEASE RETRACTING AND CORRECTING THEIR FALSE
CLAIM THAT THE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT (S323) SUBJECTS
WOMEN TO THE DEATH PENALTY.**

Respectfully in Christ the Lord,

Personhood SC

Matt Clark MD MPH
Executive Director

Jeremie Sholler
Board Member

Kelly Rowe
Board Member

Kiley Waldrop
Communications

¹ https://personhood.sc/wp-content/uploads/PSC_Response_to_SCCL_GRAVE_ERROR.pdf

² S323 Section 44-41-615 (G): https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/323_20250212.htm

³ S323 Section 44-41-615 (F)(3)(c): https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/323_20250212.htm