

**House File 2230 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2230

BY GUSTOFF, THOMSON, GEHLBACH,  
MEGGERS, STOLTENBERG,  
GOLDING, DIEKEN, DEYOE,  
DUNWELL, JOHNSON, CARLSON,  
HOLT, COLLINS, STONE,  
GERHOLD, CISNEROS, WILLS,  
and M. THOMPSON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the survival of, and the bringing of a cause  
2 of action for, wrongful death of an unborn child.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 611.20, Code 2024, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **611.20 Actions survive.**

4 1. All causes of action shall survive and may be brought  
5 notwithstanding the death of the person entitled or liable to  
6 the ~~same~~ cause of action.

7 2. For the purposes of the survival of, and the bringing  
8 of a cause of action for, wrongful death of an unborn child  
9 under subsection 1, "person" includes the unborn child. For the  
10 purposes of this subsection, "unborn child" means the same as  
11 defined in section 146A.1.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill relates to the survival of, and the bringing of a  
16 cause of action for, the wrongful death of an unborn child.

17 Code section 611.20 (actions survive) provides that  
18 all causes of action shall survive and may be brought  
19 notwithstanding the death of the person entitled or liable  
20 to the cause of action. The bill amends the Code section to  
21 provide that specifically for the purposes of the survival of,  
22 and the bringing of a cause of action for, wrongful death of  
23 an unborn child, "person" includes the unborn child. The bill  
24 defines "unborn child" as an individual organism of the species  
25 homo sapiens from fertilization to live birth.