To provide that human life shall be deemed to begin with fertilization.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 17, 2017

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. CRAWFORDF, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LONG, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. OLSON, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. WOODALL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide that human life shall be deemed to begin with fertilization.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Sanctity of Human

5 Life Act”.

6 SEC. 2. DECLARATION.

7 In the exercise of the powers of the Congress, includ-

8 ing Congress’ power under article I, section 8 of the Con-
stitution, to make necessary and proper laws, and Con-
gress' power under section 5 of the 14th article of amend-
ment to the Constitution of the United States—

(1) the Congress declares that—

(A) the right to life guaranteed by the
Constitution is vested in each human being, and
is the paramount and most fundamental right
of a person; and

(B) the life of each human being begins
with fertilization, cloning, or its functional
equivalent, irrespective of sex, health, function
or disability, defect, stage of biological develop-
ment, or condition of dependency, at which time
every human being shall have all the legal and
constitutional attributes and privileges of
personhood; and

(2) the Congress affirms that the Congress,
each State, the District of Columbia, and all United
States territories have the authority to protect the
lives of all human beings residing in its respective
jurisdictions.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) FERTILIZATION.—The term “fertilization”
means the process of a human spermatozoan pene-
trating the cell membrane of a human oocyte to create a human zygote, a one-celled human embryo, which is a new unique human being.

(2) CLONING.—The term “cloning” means the process called somatic cell nuclear transfer, that combines an enucleated egg and the nucleus of a somatic cell to make a human embryo.

(3) HUMAN; HUMAN BEING.—The terms “human” and “human being” include each and every member of the species homo sapiens at all stages of life, beginning with the earliest stage of development, created by the process of fertilization, cloning, or its functional equivalent.