

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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Mr. John J. Jakubczyk  
Attorney at Law  
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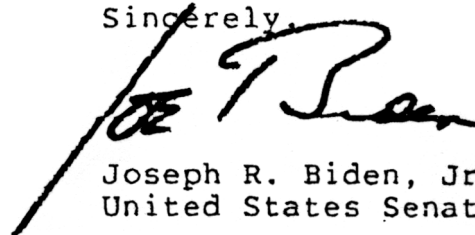
Dear Mr. Jakubczyk:

I, like you, believe it is very important that the issue of whether the Hatch-Eagleton Amendment should become the law of the land should be decided by the full Senate--not bottled up in the Senate Judiciary Committee. That is why, in spite of the fact that the amendment did not pass in Committee, I moved that it be reported to the floor of the United States Senate for a full and thorough debate. Although I supported last year's Hatch Amendment, I could not vote to support the Hatch-Eagleton Amendment in Committee because it had been substantially changed from the Hatch amendment, which had been broader and less oriented towards state's rights. My position all along has been that I would not support an amendment of the nature of the Hatch-Eagleton Amendment. I do think it is important that Senators Hatch and Eagleton have an opportunity to make their case to the full Senate and that the Senate focus on a means by which we can impact upon the number of abortions that are being performed in this country.

I might also add that I find it difficult to understand how those who refuse to limit the right of abortion in this country can at the same time support the expansion of the government's financial involvement in providing for abortions. That is why I have been a consistent supporter of the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits the use of Medicaid funds to finance abortions. I believe that it is not the government's business to be promoting abortion in any way. We must emphasize individual responsibility for the precious gift of human life.

Again, thank you very much for taking the time to share your views with me. I hope you will continue to do so in the future. I think it's very important that each of us knows where the other stands.

Sincerely,



Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
United States Senator

JRB/tkw