

## How Can I Help Save the Hyde Amendment?

Your help is critical and during these next few weeks and we need everyone on board to help. The list below are things that we need to focus on from August 2 through September 15 or so.

This is an all-hands-on-deck situation, and we hope you will join us and be a part of making a difference. Our goal is to keep the Hyde Amendment intact.

To be successful, we are going to have to make a lot of noise.

The first priority is to get as many phone calls and emails as possible made and sent to all members of Congress. We will need to have them on-going throughout this August recess and even when they return after Labor Day and begin discussing the Hyde Amendment further. This means we are going to need to activate pro-life churches, get pro-life friends and families and the entire community involved.

### **Attached are various materials that will help:**

- A Basic Hyde Primer which will refresh your memory on the Hyde Amendment, when it was enacted, what it does, how many lives it has saved, etc.
- Talking Points on Hyde to memorize so that you can defend the Hyde Amendment if needed and to make sure you are able to answer questions.
- Activating Churches on the Hyde Amendment and getting them to help
- Church Bulletin Inserts
- Suggested Church bulletin announcements

- Information on getting your E-Trees geared up and ready for action
- Preparing for a successful meeting with your representative
- A National Petition urging folks to sign it. The names will be a show of support of the Hyde Amendment to Congress.
- Social Media suggestions and current memes for your chapter and/or church to post during this process

More items will be added to this site as we continue down this road. We will have sample letters to the editor, editorial pieces, and more.

Thank you for giving of your time to be on this call, and for your help in this battle of saving lives. Working together we have a chance to save countless lives.

## Overall To-Do List

- ❖ Read through entire packet and make sure you understand the project
- ❖ Put in a call to your member of congress. Try to speak with him or her and if you can't, ask when you can expect a call back.
- ❖ Send an email to your member of congress laying out the reasons that the Hyde Amendment needs to be kept intact.
- ❖ Visit your local office of your representative, even if you know he or she is not on property. Walk in and ask to speak to whomever is available and make all your points.
- ❖ Use the social media memes and posts included in the packet and get them out to the public. Follow NRLC (information also included) and get social media accounts if you are not already active. This allows more people to be reached!
- ❖ Activate your churches. Ask to get bulletin announcements and/or inserts (both provided in the packet) into the church bulletin. See details on Activating your church.
- ❖ Get a letter to the editor written and submitted to your state paper. Maybe try your hand at writing an editorial. Information on both is included.
- ❖ Find 5 people, friends, family, acquaintances, neighbors, people who are pro-life and educate them and ask them to do all the items you have completed. Let us know and we can send a packet of information to them. The goal is to get tens of thousands of calls, letters, visits into every member of congress to educate them on how their constituents feel about keeping the Hyde Amendment intact.
- ❖ **Pray that we are successful in these efforts and that the Hyde Amendment continues. Hundreds of thousands of lives depend on it.**

Thank you for all your help. We know we can count on you.

State Organizational Development Department

Email: [StateOD@nrlc.org](mailto:StateOD@nrlc.org)

## A Basic Hyde Amendment Primer

### Who is Henry Hyde?

Henry Hyde will be remembered by history as the father of the modern pro-life movement for his introduction and sponsorship of the amendment that bears his name, prohibiting federal funding of abortion. Hyde first offered the amendment as a freshman member of Congress in 1976, and it remains in place to this day. The Hyde Amendment also charted a new course for the pro-life movement after 1976 by implementing a strategy to pass protective pro-life measures that would incrementally reduce the number of abortions, while continually seeking the eventual overturn of *Roe v. Wade*. That strategy has been successful in saving millions of lives from abortion.

Throughout his more than three decades in Congress, Henry Hyde was a leader for the pro-life movement and used his position as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and later the House International Relations Committee to advance the pro-life cause.

It is safe to say that Congressman Henry Hyde not only tried to save the most defenseless among us, but that he has succeeded on a level of which most can only dream. His efforts, his victories, his leadership, and his friendship are deeply appreciated by the National Right to Life Committee and by pro-life citizens across this nation.

After *Roe v. Wade* was handed down in 1973, various federal health programs, including Medicaid, simply started paying for elective abortions. By 1976, the federal Medicaid program was paying for about 300,000 elective abortions annually, and the number was escalating rapidly. That is why it was necessary for Congressman Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) to offer, beginning in 1976, his limitation amendment to the annual Health and

Human Services appropriations bill, to prohibit the use of funds that flow through that annual appropriations bill from being used for abortions. In a 1980 ruling (*Harris v. McRae*), the U.S. Supreme Court ruled, 5-4, that the Hyde Amendment did not contradict *Roe v. Wade*.

In the years after the Hyde Amendment was attached to LHHS appropriations bills, the remaining appropriations bills, as well as other government programs, were brought into line with this life-saving policy.

The Hyde Amendment is widely recognized as having a significant impact on the number of abortions in the United States, saving an estimated two million American lives.

National Right to Life believes that the Hyde Amendment has proven itself to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress. Additionally, a majority of Americans have consistently opposed taxpayer funding for abortion.

There is abundant empirical evidence that where government funding for abortion is not available under Medicaid or the state equivalent program, at least one-fourth of the Medicaid-eligible women carry their babies to term, who would otherwise procure federally funded abortions. Some pro-abortion advocacy groups have claimed that the abortion-reduction effect is substantially greater—one-in-three, or even 50 percent.

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1. Statement of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, "Effects of Sec. 209, Labor-HEW Appropriations Bill, H.R. 14232," June 25, 1976.

2. The 1980 CQ Almanac reported, "With the Supreme Court reaffirming its decision [in *Harris v. McRae*, June 30, 1980] in September, HHS ordered an end to all Medicaid abortions except those allowed by the Hyde Amendment. The department, which once paid for some 300,000 abortions a year and had estimated the number would grow to 470,000 in 1980 . . ." In 1993, the Congressional Budget Office, evaluating a proposed bill to remove limits on abortion coverage from Medicaid and all other then-existing federal health programs, estimated that the result would be that

“the federal government would probably fund between 325,000 to 675,000 abortions each year.” Letter from Robert D. Reischauer, director, Congressional Budget Office, to the Honorable Vic Fazio, July 19, 1993.

3. Michael J. New, Ph.D., Hyde @ 40 ANALYZING THE IMPACT OF THE HYDE AMENDMENT

4. McLaughlin & Associates, November 4, 2020

5. “Discriminatory Restrictions on Abortion Funding Threaten Women’s Health,” NARAL Pro-Choice America Foundation factsheet, January 1, 2010, citing Rachel K. Jones et al., Patterns in the Socioeconomic Characteristics of Women Obtaining Abortions in 2000-2001, *Persp. on. Sexual & Reprod. Health* 34 (2002).

## Federal Funding of Abortion and Related Issues

The Hyde Amendment and Taxpayer-funding of abortion: The Hyde Amendment is a limitation that is attached annually to the appropriations bill that includes funding for the Department of Health and Human Services, and it applies only to the funds contained in that bill, including Medicaid. Like the annual appropriations bill itself, the Hyde Amendment expires every September 30th, the end of the federal fiscal year.

The Hyde Amendment will remain in effect only for as long as the Congress and the President re-enact it for each new federal fiscal year. Funding bans, like Hyde, have been attached to programs funded through other funding streams [e.g., international aid (Helms), the federal employee health benefits program (Smith), the District of Columbia (Dornan), Federal prisons, Peace Corps, etc.]. Together these various funding bans form a patchwork of policies that cover most federal programs and the District of Columbia, but many of these funding bans must be re-approved every year and could be eliminated at any time. H.R. 18 would make these limitations permanent.

- The Hyde Amendment has been renewed each appropriations cycle—with few changes—every year for over 40 years.
- The Hyde Amendment has enjoyed bipartisan support over the years and has been supported by Congresses controlled by both parties as well as presidents from both parties.

- It was estimated that before the Hyde Amendment took effect, the Medicaid program was paying for about 300,000 elective abortions annually, and the number was escalating rapidly. (1)
- The Hyde Amendment is estimated to have saved over 2.4 million lives. (2) National Right to Life believes that the Hyde Amendment has proven itself to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress.
- There is abundant empirical evidence that where government funding for abortion is not available under Medicaid or the state equivalent program, at least one-fourth of the Medicaid-eligible women carry their babies to term, who would otherwise procure federally funded abortions. Some pro-abortion advocacy groups have claimed that the abortion-reduction effect is substantially greater—one-in-three, or even 50 percent. (3)
- The Hyde Amendment has majority support. A January 2021 Marist poll found that 58% of Americans oppose federal funding of abortion. A November 2020 McLaughlin poll found that 64% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. The McLaughlin poll notably found that 69% of Independents and even 49% of Democrats oppose taxpayer of abortion.

## Talking Points on Hyde

People should not be forced to pay for abortion with their tax dollars against their will.

The Hyde Amendment has majority support. A January 2021 Marist poll found that 58% of Americans oppose federal funding of abortion. A November 2020 McLaughlin poll found that 64% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. The McLaughlin poll notably found that 69% of Independents and even 49% of Democrats oppose taxpayer of abortion.

The Hyde Amendment has enjoyed bipartisan support since 1976 and has been continually included in the appropriations process since then.

The Hyde Amendment is estimated to have saved over 2.4 million lives.

It was estimated that before the Hyde Amendment took effect, the Medicaid program was paying for about 300,000 elective abortions annually, and that number was escalating rapidly.

The Hyde Amendment is not discriminatory. It saves babies of all ethnicities.

Government funding of abortion is discriminatory. According to the Centers for Disease Control, African American babies are killed by abortion at a rate more than three times that of non-Hispanic white babies and Hispanic babies are aborted at a rate of almost 75% greater than that of non-Hispanic white babies. Taxpayer funding of abortion would kill even more African American and Hispanic babies.

President Biden and the pro-abortion Democratic leadership should not be allowed to remove the Hyde Amendment and force everyone to pay for abortion with their tax-dollars.



## Activating Your Church

The Hyde Amendment is widely recognized as having a significant impact on the number of abortions in the United States saving an estimated two million American lives.

National Right to Life believes that the Hyde Amendment has proven itself to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress.

Additionally, a majority of Americans have consistently opposed taxpayer funding for abortion. A January 2021 Marist poll found that 58% of Americans oppose federal funding of abortion. A November 2020 McLaughlin poll found that 64% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion.

It has been made clear to those who currently control Congress that the plan is to get rid of the Hyde Amendment and allow federal tax dollars to fund abortion on demand. We need your help to keep the Hyde Amendment in place.

We need you to contact the House member who represents you in Congress. You can click [here](#) to make a call or [here](#) to send an email. The importance of the church congregation acting on the Hyde Amendment cannot be overstated. Millions of lives are, quite literally, at stake.

The time frame is from August 2 through middle September 2021, and possibly into October, for the House of Representatives. The Senate action will then follow. Please, take the needed steps to get your church involved and ask them to help protect the most innocent human lives.

Following are bullet points that we are asking you to act on. Your help has never been more needed, has never been more crucial. We are counting on you, but more than National Right to Life, the unborn are counting on you. Let us join together, work together, and end this effort to remove the Hyde Amendment and allow taxpayer funding for all abortions. Please.

To learn more, please click [here](#) and go to pages 13 – 16 for in-depth information on the Hyde Amendment and its history.

- Pray about it and make the commitment to help keep the Hyde Amendment in place and save lives.
- Talk about it during your church services. Your congregation needs to hear from you that this is something worth fighting for.
- Educate your church attendees, explain what needs to be done and offer educational resources to them so they can help engage others. Urge them to act on all action items immediately and get others to join in.
- Read over the talking points and then call your congressional representative. Click [here](#) for calling information.
- Read up on the Hyde Amendment and then click [here](#) to send an email to your representative.
- Drop in for a visit at your representative's local office and even if he or she is not there, ask to talk to whoever is there, explain why you are there and ask that the information be relayed to the representative and tell the individual you are speaking with that you would like the representative to contact you.
- Find 5 other people in your family, your neighborhood, your circle of friends to do the same things listed above. It is only in numbers that we will get their attention.
- Circulate the petition – online version is [here](#), download and print version [here](#) and get others to do the same.
- Pray that our collective efforts might be successful, and that babies' lives will be saved from them. Pray that we can keep the 40 plus year old Hyde Amendment safe and intact and that federal funding of abortion will not occur. Pray for National Right to Life that God may lead us in the right direction. And thank you from the very bottom of our hearts. You are making a difference.

## Your Action is Needed Now!

The Hyde Amendment is a provision in federal law that prevents taxpayer funding of elective abortion in federal programs. It has been in every federal budget since 1976 and is widely recognized as having saved an estimated 2.4 million American lives.

Unless we act now, the Hyde Amendment will not be included in the budget currently being considered in Congress.

It is estimated that before the Hyde Amendment took effect, the Medicaid program was paying for about 300,000 elective abortions annually, and that number was escalating rapidly.

A November 2020 McLaughlin poll found that 64% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion.

The Hyde Amendment is not discriminatory. It saves babies of all ethnicities.

Please tell your US Senators and Representative that you do NOT want your tax dollars paying to kill preborn children.



For more information or to find out how to contact your Senators and Representative, go to [www.nrlc.org/Hyde](http://www.nrlc.org/Hyde).

American taxpayers should not be forced to  
pay for abortion!  
**#SaveHyde**

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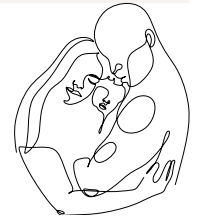
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**#SaveHyde**

## **Possible Language for Church Bulletin Inserts**

Please consider the following language for your church bulletin as an announcement to help get people motivated and energized to help keep the Hyde Amendment.

- The Hyde Amendment, supported by 64% of Americans is in jeopardy. The Hyde Amendment has enjoyed bipartisan support since 1976 and has saved an estimated 2.4 million lives. Please visit [nrlc.org/Hyde](http://nrlc.org/Hyde), read the information and send an email or make a call to your representative. Our tax dollars should not be used to pay for abortion.
- The Hyde Amendment is in danger of being dropped from the appropriations process. It is estimated that before the Hyde Amendment took effect, the Medicaid program was paying for about 300,000 elective abortions annually, and that number was escalating rapidly. 64% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. Please visit [nrlc.org/Hyde](http://nrlc.org/Hyde) to see how you can help. Lives literally depend on it.
- The Hyde Amendment has majority support. A January 2021 Marist poll found that 58% of Americans oppose federal funding of abortion. A November 2020 McLaughlin poll found that 64% of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion. The McLaughlin poll notably found that 69% of Independents and even 49% of Democrats oppose taxpayer of abortion. Visit [nrlc.org/Hyde](http://nrlc.org/Hyde) to see how you can help. Lives depend on it.

## Phone E-Trees (Texting, e-mails, and social media)

It is best to send out the action alert by mobile text, and e-mail. Must post the alert through your online platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Website and more.) E-mail is quicker and cheaper, but not as effective as a text. If a person is contacted via text message (or even a phone call) by a



chapter member who can explain the issue and tell them why it is important, they will be much more likely to follow through with the alert. But as your list grows, the number of people to text can become daunting. It is a good idea to develop text trees, with specific chapter members who can act as text tree captains. Having e-tree captains who can either be given a list of about twenty (or more) individuals, or who already have a

dedicated list of individuals, can get your alert out very quickly to many people. This is highly effective.

When you send out the alert, be quick and efficient, explaining the issue as succinctly as possible, and what you are asking individuals to do. Write one text that summarizes what needs to be done. Then copy and paste text to your contacts. Your text history will be your list of those contacted and who has received your alert and who has responded. If possible, after the vote, make sure everyone receives a to thank you for participating, and to let them know the outcome of the vote.

## **PREPARING FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICE VISIT**

It may seem a little intimidating to think about meeting with your member of Congress. Still, please realize that several studies of Congressional staff prove that an in-person visit leaves more of an impression on the member of Congress than any other influence strategy (phone call, email, letter). Ordinarily, you would call and schedule a meeting with your legislator, but we believe it is best to find their office hours and visit them accordingly because of the nature of these meetings.

Meeting with the Representative is essential, but meeting with a member of the Representative's staff is equally valued. Before the meeting, make sure you have gone over NRLC's talking points and that you will be able to explain your concerns about taxpayer-funded abortion. Have a way to take notes to write down what they have to say.

### **Arriving At the Office**

Introduce and identify yourself as a constituent.

Please specify that you are there to speak to them about taxpayer-funded abortion and the urgency of saving the Hyde Amendment.

Tell them you want them to support any bill or legislation that saves the Hyde Amendment (talking points).

Take notes when they respond.

Please provide additional details about why they should support the Hyde Amendment (talking points).

Offer to be a resource on this issue; give them your card or your limited contact information (mobile number and email).

Thank them for their time and remind them you will follow up as it gets closer to approving Hyde Amendment language.

### **After The Meeting**

In the short term, send a thank you email to the staffer shortly following the meeting. Be sure to respond to any questions you couldn't answer in the discussion and provide any follow-up information you promised. Remind staff again how vital this issue is to the district.

### **Follow Through – Plus Five Saves Hyde**

Please know that by visiting your Congressman's office, you have fulfilled an age-old civic responsibility on the most important issue of our time – the fight to save the lives of unborn children by ensuring the Hyde Amendment is left intact. Now, it is equally important to find others in your community, in your family, or at work who share your pro-life values and encourage them to visit your local Congressman's office. If you can find five individuals who are willing to call them, e-mail them, and even visit them as you just have, our impact on saving the Hyde Amendment grows exponentially. Please help us get others involved.

Thank you.

# YES, WE WANT TO KEEP THE HYDE AMENDMENT



Dear Members of Congress,

The popular and decades-long Hyde Amendment, which prevents taxpayer funding of elective abortion in federal programs, is at risk.

President Biden supports using tax dollars to pay for abortion and now says that he supports elimination of the Hyde Amendment. Also, Speaker Pelosi has publicly endorsed the push to do away with the Hyde Amendment this year.

The Hyde Amendment is widely recognized as having a significant impact on the number of abortions in the United States saving an estimated two million American lives!

**We** believe that the Hyde Amendment has proven itself to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress. The Hyde Amendment and other critical spending amendments that prevent federal funding of abortion are at risk of being dropped or eliminated if Congress does not renew them.

**We urge you to keep these life-saving provisions in the law and say NO to taxpayer funding of abortion!**

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Print Name	Address
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Please return immediately to National Right to Life.

For more copies, visit [www.nrlc.org/getinvolved](http://www.nrlc.org/getinvolved) OR call (202) 378-8842.



## Sample Letter 1:

In **Everyman Newspaper's** Sunday edition, the article "Abortion Rights Supporters Say 'Hyde Must Go'" heavily relies on representatives from organizations that support abortion on demand and who want to see the elimination of the Hyde Amendment.

What abortion supporters fail to recognize is that most Americans feel that their tax dollars should not be used to take the life of an unborn child. People should not be forced to pay for something they find morally wrong, and those voices should have been included in this article.

I would hope in the future that **Everyman Newspaper** would also approach those who oppose having their tax dollars used to pay for the destruction of precious human lives. It should be the goal of every reporter to be balanced in their approach to such a vitally important issue as the protection of human life.

## Sample Letter 2: [This could be used for members of Congress as well as Senators.]

Congressman John Doe ["Congressman Doe Says, 'Hyde Must Go,'" Sunday, July 25, 2021] is determined to see our tax dollars used to pay for abortion on demand. Working in concert with pro-abortion leadership in the House and with groups like NARAL, a pro-abortion lobby group, Congressman Doe thinks our tax money should be used to pay for the deaths of unborn babies.

Congressman Doe is wrong when he says that this is what his constituents want. Most Americans oppose tax dollars being used to pay for abortions, including those in his district. Congressman Doe says he wants to help those less fortunate in our society but paying for abortion on demand with our tax dollars isn't the answer.

Congressman Doe would better serve the less fortunate in our society by helping to find real answers to real problems. Killing unborn babies with our tax money isn't the solution.

### **Sample Letter #3**

For 45 years, the Hyde Amendment has enjoyed bipartisan support in the House and the Senate as well as the support of presidents on both sides of the aisle. It was one of the few things agreed upon by members of both parties and with good reason: when the Hyde Amendment was first introduced, the federal Medicaid program was paying for over 300,000 abortions **each year** and the number was rising rapidly.

In Sunday's article, "Abortion Rights Supporters Say, 'Hyde Must Go,'" the reporter failed to note that the history of Hyde includes almost a half a century of broad bipartisan support.

Why has that support suddenly disappeared? Because the Democratic Party is no longer the "Party of the People"—it is the party of abortion on demand. It is the party that bows to the ever-increasing desire of the abortion industry to see that abortions—anywhere, at any time in pregnancy and for any reason—are paid for with our tax dollars.

Even President Biden, who used to support the Hyde Amendment while a senator and vice-president, has flipped-flopped on the Hyde Amendment and now wants our tax dollars to be used to pay for abortions.

Most Americans oppose tax dollars being used to pay for abortions. It's time Democrats in Congress—and in the White House—listen to the people they claim to represent and save the Hyde Amendment.

## Sample Op-Ed

For 45 years, members of Congress on both sides of the aisle as well as presidents from both parties, have agreed that taxpayers should not fund abortions.

But, under the leadership of pro-abortion Democrats in Congress, this has changed. Instead of protecting women and their unborn children, pro-abortion Democrats are more interested in burnishing their credentials with abortion groups and their supporters.

And to do this, the Democratic Party is more than willing to force taxpayers to pay for abortions on demand.

Congressman Henry Hyde (R-Ill.) introduced the Hyde Amendment in 1976, not long after the Supreme Court rulings in *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* that legalized abortion on demand. At that time, federal Medicaid statutes, written before *Roe* and *Doe*, made no reference to abortion and the federal program was paying for 300,000 abortions each year—and the number was climbing.

The Hyde Amendment is estimated to have saved over 2.4 million lives—National Right to Life considers it the greatest abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress.

It is time to save Hyde.

Each year, the Hyde Amendment is added to the annual Health and Human Services appropriations bill to prevent taxpayer funds from being used to pay for abortions. The measure has enjoyed bipartisan support since its introduction in 1976 and has been in effect ever since.

But to be continually in effect, the Hyde Amendment must be added to the appropriations budget every year.

For the first time since 1976, the proposed budget by the majority party has no Hyde Amendment language—a deliberate omission.

Until recently, the Hyde Amendment enjoyed support from both Republican and Democratic presidents. However, in 2019, the-candidate Joe Biden reversed his position on the Amendment and announced that he supported taxpayer-funding of abortion.

In fact, President Biden’s proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022 omitted the Hyde Amendment and clearly showed that President Biden has endorsed the extremism of pro-abortion groups who would like to see abortion on demand paid for with tax dollars.

Both House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer want to eliminate the Hyde Amendment and have repeatedly defended the decision to do so. Leading Democrats in both the House and the Senate are determined to fund abortions using taxpayer money.

What used to be a bipartisan consensus—that taxpayer funds should not be used to pay for abortions—has now become part of an overall campaign to see abortion available at anytime, anywhere, and for any reason—and paid for with tax dollars.

The abortion industry is powerful. Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion provider, brings in over 1 billion dollars annually. This powerful organization, along with its allies, sees tax dollars as another revenue source and the elimination of Hyde will increase their share of those moneys significantly.

This is a money grab, plain and simple, and Democratic leadership is part of this campaign to pour more money into the abortion industry contrary to the wishes of the American people.

Most Americans oppose using taxpayer funds to pay for abortions. In a January 2021 Marist poll, 58 percent said they “oppose using tax dollars to pay for a woman’s abortion,” and a November 2020 McLaughlin poll put the number of those opposed at 64 percent.

But the will of the people doesn't matter to Democrat leaders when they are fully engaged in a scorched earth campaign against the unborn and wanting to use our tax dollars to pay for it.