



national **RIGHT TO LIFE** NEWS

March 2021

Pro-Abortion Democrats Vote in Favor of Abortion Funding in \$1.9 Trillion Covid Relief Bill

The vast majority of Americans do not want their tax dollars to pay for abortions. These pro-abortion Senate Democrats voted for taxpayer funding of abortion.

Kyrsten Sinema, AZ
Mark Kelly, AZ
Diane Feinstein, CA
Alex Padilla, CA
Michael Bennet, CO
John Hickenlooper, CO
Richard Blumenthal, CT
Chris Murphy, CT
Tom Carper, DE
Chris Coons, DE
Jon Ossoff, GA
Raphael Warnock, GA
Brian Schatz HI
Mazie Hirono HI
Dick Durbin IL
Tammy Duckworth IL
Angus King ME
Ben Cardin MD
Chris Van Hollen, MD
Elizabeth Warren, MA
Ed Markey, MA

Debbie Stabenow, MI
Gary Peters, MI
Amy Klobuchar, MN
Tina Smith, MN
Jon Tester, MT
Catherine Cortez Masto, NV
Jacky Rosen, NV
Jeanne Shaheen, NH
Maggie Hassan, NH
Bob Menendez, NJ
Cory Booker, NJ
Martin Heinrich, NM
Ben Ray Lujan, NM
Chuck Schumer, NY
Kirsten Gillibrand NY
Sherrod Brown, OH
Ron Widen, OR
Jeff Merkley, OR
Sheldon Whitehouse, RI
Jack Reed, RI
Patrick Leahy, VT

Bernie Sanders, VT
Mark Warner, VA
Patty Murray, WA
Maria Cantwell, WA
Tammy Baldwin, WI



 NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE



national RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

Pro-Abortion Democrats Vote in Favor of Abortion Funding in \$1.9 Trillion Reconciliation Package

By Jennifer Popik, NRLC Federal Legislative Director

On Saturday March 6, the COVID-19 reconciliation bill, known as the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, was passed by the Senate on a straight party-line vote with all Democrats voting in favor and all Republicans voting against. The bill now heads back to the House, where the chamber will vote Tuesday and is expected to approve changes made by the Senate.

As countless observers, including National Right to Life, have explained, the Covid-19 Reconciliation bill has little to do with the pandemic. It is a Democrat

wish-list containing numerous provisions aimed at propping up the abortion industry.

As a consequence, this legislation has the potential to funnel millions of dollars into paying for elective abortions and insurance plans that cover abortion.

In the words of Sen. James Lankford (R-Okla.),

Congress has passed five bipartisan bills in the past 12 months related to the COVID-19 pandemic that target relief to those who

See "Funding," page 19



Federal District Judge Contreras, Obama Appointee, Rules that Ratification Deadline for 1972 Equal Rights Amendment Was Valid

Rejects the 2017-2020 "Ratifications" by Virginia, Nevada, and Illinois

WASHINGTON – On March 5, U.S. District Judge Rudolph Contreras (an appointee of President Barack Obama) ruled that the ratification period for the Equal Rights Amendment, set in the ERA Resolution approved by Congress 49 years ago, was valid, and that the actions of the legislatures of Nevada (2017), Illinois (2018), and Virginia (2020) had no legal effect.

In a case called *Virginia v. Ferriero*, those three states sued the Archivist of the United States in the federal



district court in the District of Columbia, after the Archivist declined to certify the ERA as part of the Constitution, following a "ratification" by the Virginia legislature in January 2020. The Archivist deferred to a legal opinion issued by the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Counsel (OLC), January 6, 2020, which held that the ERA ratification deadline (March 22, 1979 – not in 1982 as often reported) was

See "Deadline," page 24

Editorials

Breezing by public opposition to taxpayer funded abortion, Democrats exclude Hyde Amendment protections in COVID relief plan reconciliation package.

No one who followed the \$1.9 trillion dollar Covid relief reconciliation package had any illusions that it had much of anything to do with the pandemic but everything to do with what NRLC President Carol Tobias called a “Democrat wish-list.” Single issue pro-lifers knew the path a Senate and a House controlled by pro-abortion Democrats would race down. It would attempt to pack the measure with various and sundry ways to gouge the taxpaying public on behalf of the Abortion Industry, particularly Planned Parenthood, the abortion behemoth.

Most importantly, Senate and House Democrats succeeded at making sure that Hyde Amendment limitations would not apply. For over 40 years they have sought to end what National Right to Life has correctly described as the single most important abortion-reduction measure Congress has ever enacted, saving over an estimated two million American lives.

They did so on Friday/Saturday. They were not the least bit subtle.

Senator James Lankford (R-Okla.) offered an amendment, co-sponsored by Senator Steve Daines (R-Mont.) that “would have applied Hyde-related language and prevented taxpayer funding of abortion in certain provisions in the COVID relief plan reconciliation package,” as NRLC explained. 60 votes were needed to pass the amendment. The vote, however, fell 8 votes



short: 52-47. (A death in the family prevented pro-life Sen. Dan Sullivan from being present.) “Pro-abortion Democrats voted overwhelmingly against the amendment and in favor of abortion funding.”

See “Exclude,” page 34

Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice....

Like you, I’ve been around the track more than enough times to instantly know that when pro-abortionists make pronouncements, it requires a presentation that is rife with falsehoods, dripping with distortions, and/or teeming with misrepresentations to give a surface plausibility to their counter-intuitive conclusion. This is especially true with the topic is the pro-abortion presidency of Joe Biden.

As Biden holed up in his basement, his campaign sold the public a bill of goods so out of kilter with reality that you have to ask yourself how they could have looked at themselves in the mirror.

Joe Biden “centrist”?

Joe Biden “devout Catholic”?

Joe Biden “rolling back the culture war.”

The latter is the headline to an opinion piece in Sunday’s *Washington Post* written by the interminably smug know-it-all E.J. Dionne.

The remainder of the headline reads, “The country should thank him.” Yowza.

Before we get to the specifics of a truly bizarre opinion piece, what would we say? Calling people names (such as “Neanderthals”) accomplishes what for President Biden, besides the pleasure of venting his spleen?

Who believes filling vacancies in a Biden administration “with an abundance of former abortion industry employees” (as Carol

Novielli put it) tamps down the culture war?

Working hand in glove with the Abortion Industry to sweep away conscience protections and erasing limitations on taxpayer funding of abortion (Hyde Amendment) is asking for disarmament? It’s just the opposite, of course.

It is foisting on an unwilling public the never-enough abortions, to-heck-with-your-moral-objections worldview of the Abortion Industry and its legion of media enablers (like Dionne) and a cadre of pliant Democrats.

So, apropos Dionne, how exactly is President Biden “rolling back the culture war” for which he is not being given sufficient gratitude? It’s mostly filler, but the thrust of his argument is that Republicans by definition can never have the interests of working class Americans at heart but President Biden does and has already started working on their behalf, having been in office for about 48 minutes.

Dionne quotes a Republican Senator making that case that the GOP is now the party of “working class men and women.” If this is so obviously a cynical Republican ploy, why do we need still another one-time opinion maker to tell us?

Fear.

See “Fool,” page 38

From the President Carol Tobias

Facing challenges with unparalleled determination and perseverance



Innocent human life is under attack in this country, probably more than ever before. As multiple stories in this March issue of *National Right to Life News* demonstrate, pro-abortion Democrats are coming fast and furious at unborn children, determined to remove any and all protections.

Congress is putting the final touches on a Covid stimulus package that will contain funds that can be used for abortion. The legislation does NOT contain the Hyde Amendment language, a long-standing agreement that taxpayers would not be forced to pay for abortion. Neither is international funding protected by the Helms amendment, which prevents U.S. tax dollars from being spent to promote abortion in other countries.

The House has passed the (so-called) "Equality Act," which could be used to expand abortion and abortion funding, while denying conscience protections for health care providers.

On the near horizon, Congress will likely deliberate whether the seven-year deadline placed in the 1972 Equal Rights Amendment should be removed. Abortion advocates want state ratifications post-1979 to be accepted, therefore adding the amendment to the Constitution. Fortunately, as the story on page one reports, a federal judge has "ruled that the ratification period for the Equal Rights Amendment, set in the ERA Resolution approved by Congress 49 years ago, was valid, and that the actions of the legislatures of Nevada (2017), Illinois (2018), and Virginia (2020) had no legal effect."

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra is being considered for Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Besides having no experience in health care policy, Becerra vigorously defended a California law (subsequently struck by the Supreme Court) requiring pro-

life pregnancy centers to inform clients how to obtain an abortion. I truly believe that, if confirmed, he will have no compunction in supporting policies that force doctors and nurses to participate in abortion and assisted suicide.

These certainly seem like dark days for all of us working to protect the voiceless little ones, these precious little members of the human family. But these are the days that call for our greatest involvement.

The pro-life movement has faced difficult times before with determination and perseverance. We must—and will—continue to do so now.

I'm a great fan of British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. In 1941, when much of Europe was occupied by Nazi Germany, and Great Britain was under attack, he gave his famous "never give in" speech at Harrow School, his high school alma mater.

Churchill declared, "Never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never—in nothing, great or small, large or petty—never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy. ...our country stood in the gap. There was no flinching and no thought of giving in; and by what seemed almost a miracle to those outside these Islands, though we ourselves never doubted it, we now find ourselves in a position where I say that we can be sure that we have only to persevere to conquer."

The country, indeed, the world--and certainly unborn children--need that kind of perseverance now.

From its very beginning, America has been a beacon of light to the world. We offered an unparalleled example of freedom and independence. We were founded on the principle that every life matters. If we abandon that principle, what makes the U.S. any different, or any better, than anywhere else?

We've seen the slippery slope in action. Dissatisfied with any limitations, President Biden and fellow pro-abortion

Democrats in Congress are pushing for abortion anywhere at any time for any reason, paid for with our tax dollars, here and abroad.

At the other end of the age spectrum, the elderly and those with an ever-larger variety of non-terminal medical illnesses are not just "allowed" to kill themselves with medical assistance but are "encouraged" to end their lives prematurely.

As predicted, proposals to couple assisted suicide with organ harvesting have arrived in three countries. We see "bioethicists" also proposing the removal of conscience protections from health care providers who do not want to participate in abortion or euthanasia.

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo is finally being investigated for his role in sending Covid patients into nursing homes, passing on the virus to others. It is striking that Cuomo's alleged sexual harassment is receiving far greater media coverage than the deaths of as many as 15,000 of our elderly brothers and sisters.

The National Health Service in the United Kingdom issued do not resuscitate orders to Covid patients with learning disabilities. Though not as blatant here, similar stories have been popping up in news stories in the U.S.

Once life is no longer valued, what is left?

My appeal to you is to never give in, never give up. Educate your neighbors and your communities as to the humanity of our littlest brothers and sisters. Work with pregnancy centers so they may continue to provide help and services to pregnant women who need assistance at a difficult time in their lives.

Continue to work with your elected officials to pass protective legislation and to defeat anti-life legislation. Do everything you can to make sure that pro-life, well-qualified candidates are on the ballot next year and help get them elected.

And as always, do everything with love in your heart and a smile on your face. Let us work to keep America that shining city on a hill for all the world to see.

Recognizing “the power of our words to affirm life”

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

You never know when an introduction to a new acquaintance can change the world as you know it.

A woman whom I will call Francesca had been introduced to me through a mutual acquaintance. We happen to have a great deal in common—we are both mothers and share all the happiness and heart-racing moments that that vocation entails.

Francesca was curious about my work advocating for mothers and their babies. We had a long, productive talk and both emerged the better for it.

She told me that, as a result of our meeting, she has become more attuned to pro-life issues. So when she learned of a woman who was contemplating abortion, she knew she needed to have a candid conversation with her.

Francesca discovered that the young woman had been threatened with being thrown out of her home if she did not go through with the abortion. This is all too common—one study found that 60 percent of pregnant women felt coerced into aborting their children.

Francesca stressed to the woman that a lack of housing

could be solved—but the life of her precious child could never be replaced.

As a result, the young woman chose life for her baby.

And so, the world has now been changed, because one precious, irreplaceable person is being added to it.

We often underestimate the power of our words to affirm life. Francesca wisely recognized that she could provide hope and help to a pregnant woman facing challenging circumstances, just in the course of a single conversation.

The experience has made me


more attuned to the importance of connections in saving lives. I connected with Francesca, and Francesca connected with the young woman. And through that circle of connection a life has been saved.

Each of us can do our part in rebuilding the culture by serving as a witness to life. In both our words and our actions, we will make America a safe haven for the littlest and most fragile among us.


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The 2022 Senate Battleground Map: The Pro-Life Path Back to the Majority

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

The current composition of the United States Senate stands at 50 Republicans and 50 Democrats, with pro-abortion Vice President Kamala Harris serving as the tiebreaker. A net gain of one would restore leadership of the Senate to pro-life hands!

That dynamic has heightened the importance of the 2022 midterm elections. While 2022 may seem far off, in fact 2022 is next year! Many campaigns are already underway! For the pro-life movement, retaking the Senate is a top priority.

Here is an overview of the key Senate battlegrounds in 2022. As is always the case, additional states will likely come into play as we get closer to the mid-term elections.

Ohio

Pro-life incumbent Sen. Rob Portman's retirement announcement threw the Buckeye State back into the status of battleground territory. President Trump carried Ohio by 8 points in 2016 and 2020. In fact, Ohio was a redder state in 2020 than the traditional GOP stronghold of Texas. However, in the 2018 midterm elections, pro-abortion Sen. Sherrod Brown (D) won re-election by 7 points.

Several Republican candidates have already thrown their hat in the ring to succeed Sen. Portman, including former Ohio Treasurer Josh Mandel and former Ohio Republican Party chair Jane Timken, both of whom hold pro-life positions. Others considering a run include several members of Ohio's large Republican Congressional delegation.

On the Democratic side, Congressman and former presidential candidate Tim Ryan is widely expected to run. Rep. Ryan held a 0% rating last session, according to National Right to Life.

Pennsylvania

In both 2016 and 2020, Pennsylvania lived up to its nickname as the "Keystone State," playing a key role in determining the outcome of the presidential election. Even without pro-life Sen. Pat Toomey's retirement, winning in Pennsylvania in 2022 would have been a fight. While Republicans have been making up ground in recent years, Democrats still hold an advantage in voter registration.

Both parties are expected to have robust primaries. On the Republican side, pro-life former Lieutenant Governor Jeff Bartos has filed paperwork to run. Nearly a dozen others are reportedly considering a run.

On the Democratic side, pro-abortion Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman (a self-described "democratic socialist") and pro-abortion state Representative Malcolm Kenyatta have announced their candidacies.

North Carolina

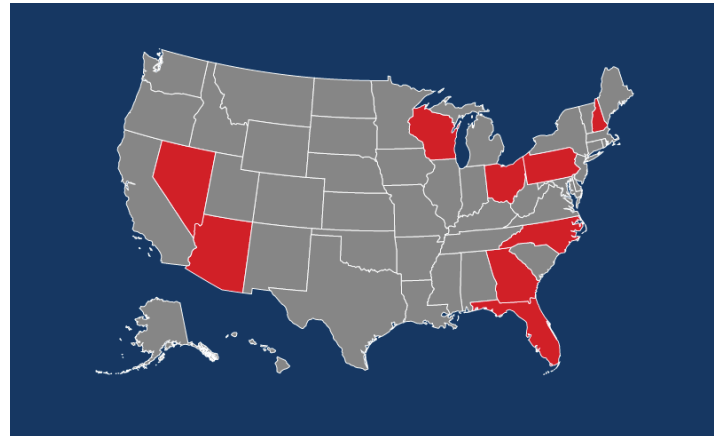
With the impending retirement of pro-life Sen. Richard Burr, the Tar Heel State will be another important battleground state. 2022 will mark the first time the state has had an open Senate seat up for grabs since 2004, the year Sen. Burr was first elected.

On the Republican side, pro-

life former Congressman Mark Walker has announced his candidacy. Additionally, pro-life Lara Trump, a Wilmington native and daughter-in-law of President Trump, and former

vote against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

There are several potential Republican candidates, including pro-life Rep.



Governor Pat McCrory, have publicly expressed interest in running.

On the Democrat side, three candidates have announced their bids. They are pro-abortion state Senator Jeff Jackson and former state Senator Erica Smith, and Richard Lee Watkins, a former Congressional candidate, whose position is not known at this time. In 2020, President Trump carried the state by a single percentage point.

Arizona

In 2020, pro-abortion Sen. Mark Kelly (D) defeated pro-life incumbent Sen. Martha McSally (R) by 3 points to finish out the term of the late Sen. John McCain. In 2022, he will face voters for the chance to serve a full six-year term. Since taking office, Sen. Kelly has garnered a 0% pro-life voting record, including his

Andy Biggs, who said he is considering a run. The Arizona Senate race is one of the pro-life movement's best opportunities to flip a seat.

Georgia

In the January runoff election, pro-abortion Sen. Raphael Warnock (D) defeated pro-life Sen. Kelly Loeffler (R) to complete the term of Sen. Johnny Isakson, who resigned in 2019 due to health concerns. Like Sen. Mark Kelly, Sen. Warnock will face voters in 2022 for the chance to serve a full six-year term. Since taking office, Warnock voted against the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

Sen. Kelly Loeffler has publicly expressed interest in a rematch against Warnock. Former Rep. Doug Collins,

Governor's bill to ban abortions based on Down syndrome diagnosis needs only her signature to become law in South Dakota

By Dave Andrusko

A bill banning abortions based on a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome, introduced by pro-life South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem, needs only her signature to become law, after the state Senate unanimously approved HB 1110 on Thursday.

The Senate's 35-0 vote comes the week after the state House also unanimously approved HB 1110 on a vote of 68-0.

In her January 12 State of the State address, Gov. Noem promised to introduce the bill.

She said, "The Declaration of Independence summarizes what we all know in our hearts to be true: God created each of us and endowed all of us with the right to life. This is true for everyone, including those with an extra chromosome. I look forward to the day when the Supreme Court recognizes that all preborn children inherently possess this right to life, too. Until that time comes, I am asking the South Dakota legislature to pass a law that bans the abortion of a preborn child, just because that child is diagnosed with Down syndrome."

When the State Affairs committee first took testimony, some 14 people testified in

favor of the bill and none against.

Reporting at the for the *Sioux Falls Argus Leader*, Danielle Ferguson wrote

Katie Shaw, an advocate for Down syndrome from

would need surgery the day she was born to "start planning what would help me have a wonderful life."

"Help those with Down syndrome have a chance," she told the

son Cod, knowing he had Down syndrome, she said. She added she knew many other families in South Dakota who would do or have done the same.

"We were unable to have children of our own. We knew we would be willing to be called to raising children with Down syndrome," she said.



Pro-life South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem

Indiana, said her parents found out she had Down syndrome when her mother was pregnant. Her doctors didn't mention abortion, she said, and told her parents she

House State Affairs committee Wednesday morning. "Make the world more wonderful."

Tami Fite, of Platte, testified alongside her family. She and her husband adopted their

As *NRL News Today* has reported on multiple occasions, virtually every baby diagnosed with Down syndrome in Iceland is aborted, 95% in Denmark are aborted ("In 2019, only 18 were born in the entire country," according to the *Atlantic*), and a 77% are aborted in France.

Approximately two out of third babies diagnosed with Down syndrome in the United States are aborted.

At her March 4th press briefing, Gov. Noem said of the unanimous passage that it was "good news seeing that kind of agreement on important issues."

Congressional Democrats March Ahead With Pro-Abortion Agenda

By Jennifer Popik, J.D. Director of Federal Legislation

While the old adage, “elections have consequences” is always true, few years have brought it into sharper focus than 2021. With Democrats controlling the House, Senate, and the White House, this year has already brought, and is sure to bring more, legislation with abortion-related consequences.

With the abortion elements of the COVID-19 reconciliation bill are discussed separately on page one and page two, here we will examine three votes that occurred just in this past week alone.

The So-Called Equality Act (H.R. 5)

The so-called “Equality Act” is one of the more pro-abortion pieces of legislation ever to be voted on in the House of Representatives.

On February 25, the House of Representatives passed H.R.5 by a vote of 224-206. The bill was supported by all 221 Democrats and three Republicans. It was opposed by 206 Republicans. Two House Republicans did not vote.

The legislation was packaged as dealing with sexual orientation and gender discrimination. In truth, the “Equality Act” contains language amending the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that could be construed to create a right to demand abortion from health care providers, and likely would place at risk the authority of state and federal government to prohibit taxpayer-funded abortions. If enacted, this legislation could be used as a powerful tool to challenge any and all state abortion restrictions.

Timing on a Senate vote is unclear, but could happen on short notice. It is expected that

Senate Democrats will bypass the usual committee process and proceed directly to a vote.

The So-Called “For the People Act (H.R. 1)

On March 3, the House of Representatives approved H.R. 1, by a vote of 220-210, with not a single Republican voting in support. The “For the People Act” is billed as a measure to



combat corruption but is itself a type of stealth corruption.

H.R. 1 would touch on nearly every piece of the electoral process, from voting regulations to free speech. While conservative voices express concern over numerous parts of the Democrat election takeover legislation, there is grave concern to countless advocacy groups, including National Right to Life, over the deep implications on our work and our donors.

The purpose of H.R. 1 is to discourage, as much as possible, disfavored groups (such as National Right to Life) from communicating with supporters about officeholders. This bill would expose citizens who support such efforts to harassment and intimidation, H.R. 1 would smother organizations in multiple, burdensome layers of record keeping and reporting requirements—all backed by the threat of civil and criminal sanctions.

According to NRLC

president Carol Tobias, “This bill is nothing more than a thinly-disguised attempt to secure power by pro-abortion Democrats. Democrat leaders are happy to violate the First Amendment and penalize Americans and their right to free speech if it means that they can silence opposing voices.”

H.R. 1 is an abuse of the lawmaking power, where

incumbent lawmakers will be able to employ the threat of criminal sanctions, among other deterrents, to reduce private speech regarding the actions of the lawmakers themselves.

The bill also would destroy the bipartisan composition of the Federal Election Commission by eliminating a commissioner—upsetting the current balance. The changes to the FEC would significantly increase the likelihood that the agency’s decisions would be politically motivated.

The Senate is expected to consider this legislation, but will face fierce Republican opposition.

Nomination of Xavier Becerra to Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS)

On March 3, the Senate Finance Committee—again with no Republican support—moved to advance the nomination of California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to be the Secretary of

Health and Human Services (HHS).

All 14 Democrats voted to advance the nomination and all 14 Republicans voted in opposition. Due to the power-sharing arrangement of a 50-50 Senate, a tie advances the nomination.

Not only does Mr. Becerra lack meaningful healthcare experience, he would also use this office to impose his ideology on matters related to abortion and other right to life concerns, among others. Numerous pro-life groups, including National Right to Life, oppose the nomination.

It is alarming that a nominee with no health experience has been put forth, given HHS’s critical role in ongoing vaccine production and distribution, along with the regulatory power the agency has in implementing recovery legislation,

While Mr. Becerra lacks public-health experience, he does have a proven track record of hostility on pro-life issues. As California’s attorney general, Mr. Becerra repeatedly and aggressively attacked protective pro-life laws and organizations with rancor. While a long-time congressman from 1993 to 2017, he had a 100% pro-abortion voting record. More on his record can be found at <https://www.nrlc.org/uncategorized/nrlc-urges-u-s-senators-to-oppose-xavier-becerra-nomination-for-secretary-of-hhs/>

Mr. Becerra is expected to face a full Senate confirmation vote in the coming days.

The Senate is expected to tackle all three of these issues in the coming days. You can find Action Alerts on these items, as well as new issues that arise, at www.nationalrighttolifenews.org and www.nrlc.org.

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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21 state coalition files amicus supporting Tennessee's 48 hour waiting period

By Dave Andrusko

Back on February 22, we analyzed a decision on an informed consent law which sharply divided a three-judge panel of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The panel rejected Tennessee's request to issue a stay in order that the state could revive its 48 hour waiting period while the state Attorney General appeals U.S. District Judge Bernard A. Friedman's decision striking down the law to the full Sixth Circuit.

We also wrote about Judge Amul Thapar's brilliant dissent. Judge Thapar asked the full 6th Circuit to review the 2-1 decision as did the state of Tennessee.

Last week, a coalition of 21 states filed an *amicus* brief in support of that request. Kentucky's Attorney General Daniel Cameron, who had joined Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry in leading the charge, explained what the 18-page friend-of-the-court brief argued.

"More than half of the states in the country have waiting periods before an abortion, and the Sixth Circuit's decision has the potential to throw these laws into disarray," said Attorney General Cameron. "We cannot let that happen, and we co-led this brief to support Tennessee and also to protect the Commonwealth's laws."

According to a statement from the Kentucky AG's office

The coalition argues that the Sixth Circuit's decision casts doubt on the governing rule from the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in June

Medical Services v. Russo, which is used to review the legality of abortion laws throughout the country. The Sixth Circuit applied this same rule last year in a decision to uphold Kentucky's transfer agreement law, requiring that abortion clinics have a transfer agreement in place with a local hospital and ambulance provider. The amicus brief states that the Sixth Circuit ignored this important precedent when applying the rule to Tennessee's abortion waiting period law.

The brief also argues that both the U.S. Supreme Court and the Sixth Circuit have upheld similar laws against constitutional challenges, and if the full court does not reconsider this decision, this precedent will be jeopardized.

The *amicus* fleshes out these contentions. Let me focus on just one:

Since the Supreme Court handed down its split decision in June Medical last summer, courts have grappled with the question of which opinion controls. The answer to that question matters quite a bit. In fact, deciding whether the Chief Justice's

concurrency controls is nothing short of deciding what legal standard courts must



Judge Amul Thapa

apply when evaluating the constitutionality of abortion laws. The Sixth Circuit answered that question four months ago in EMW Women's Surgical Center, P.S.C. v. Friedlander, a published decision that adopted the Chief Justice's concurrence as "the 'controlling opinion' from [June Medical]." In doing so, the panel made its holding clear: "We must apply [the Chief Justice's] reasoning as we would the reasoning of any other controlling opinion. No waffling. No equivocation. No

hint that this was an unnecessary detour. In fact, the very next sentence in the opinion explained that the district court below erred "[b]ecause" it did not apply the legal standard from the Chief Justice's concurring opinion.

What did Chief Justice John Roberts conclude in his concurring opinion issued in the June 29th, 2020 case of *June Medical Services L.L. v. Russo* in which the justices struck down a Louisiana law? Here's how the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals summarized his reasoning:

"According to Chief Justice Roberts, the appropriate inquiry under the [1992] Casey [decision] is whether the law poses 'a substantial obstacle' or 'substantial burden, not whether benefits outweighed burdens" ["cost-benefit standard"]. Underlining added.

At this stage, Tennessee is awaiting a decision whether the full 6th Circuit will consider the case.

The 19 other states which joined Kentucky and Louisiana in filing the brief were Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia.

Kentucky House overwhelmingly approves pro-life amendment to state constitution

By Dave Andrusko

The strongly pro-life Kentucky House Thursday overwhelmingly advanced a proposed pro-life amendment to the state Constitution.

State House Bill 91, the “Yes for Life” amendment, passed on a staggering 76-20 vote, a margin even larger than last year.

If, as expected, the Senate agrees, “the amendment would be put on the ballot in November 2022 for voters to either approve or reject in a statewide referendum,” according to the *Louisville Courier-Journal*. “The Senate never took up the bill last year

after the COVID-19 pandemic hit and the legislative session was cut short,” Joe Sonka



reported.

The language reads

“To protect human life, nothing in this Constitution shall be

construed to secure or protect a right to abortion or require the funding of abortion.”

In explaining the need for the constitutional amendment Sponsor Rep. Joe Fischer acknowledged a simple truth: some activist state Supreme Courts have “discovered” a heretofore unknown “right” to abortion in the state constitution. Sonka wrote

Fischer has stated the bill is necessary so that judges in Kentucky do not “invent” a right to abortion within

the state constitution, claiming courts in other states like Kansas have done so in recent years.

But Rep. Fischer’s statement is not a “claim” but a recognition of what has happened most recently in Kansas.

West Virginia and Louisiana have passed similar constitutional amendments. Iowa and Kansas are in the process of attempting to do likewise. Kansas’ “Value Them Both” Amendment to the state Constitution which will be on a statewide ballot in August 2022.

The 2022 Senate Battleground Map: The Pro-Life Path Back to the Majority

From page 5

Wisconsin

Pro-life Sen. Ron Johnson (R) is currently the Republican incumbent most in danger heading into 2022. Last year, then candidate Biden put Wisconsin back into the blue column following Trump’s narrow win in 2016. Despite the blue hue of the state, Sen. Johnson has defied expectations and won two terms. He is currently the only statewide elected Republican in Wisconsin.

Sen. Johnson has held a 100% rating with National Right to Life throughout both of his terms. Holding the seat will be imperative for regaining the Senate majority.

Currently running on the Democratic side are Alex

Lasry, the senior vice president of the Milwaukee Bucks, and Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson. Several others are considering bids including Congressman Ron Kind and

Wisconsin State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski. All are pro-abortion.

There are a handful of other states that could come into battleground territory including

Nevada and New Hampshire, where pro-abortion Democrat Senators Jacky Rosen and Maggie Hassan are facing re-election. President Biden narrowly carried both states.



Pediatric Group Decries Outdated Double Standard on Fetal Pain

By Randall K. O'Bannon, Ph.D. NRL Director of Education & Research

“Medicine’s double standard of acknowledging pain capability in wanted premature babies while denying it in unwanted unborn babies of the same gestational age is unconscionable”--Conclusion of American College of Pediatricians statement

Science has been uncovering more and more evidence of the ability of unborn children to experience pain but has anyone in the medical establishment been listening? A statement issued this past January shows that the doctors who are a part of the American College of Pediatricians (ACPeds) have been.

After examining the recent evidence, “ACPeds advocates the need for in-utero, neonatal, and pediatric pain prevention, mitigation, and treatment. Medicine’s double standard of acknowledging pain capability in wanted premature babies while denying it in unwanted unborn babies of the same gestational age is unconscionable.”

ACPeds acknowledges that there have been some in the past who have argued that children under the age of two are “neurologically immature” and thus incapable of fully experiencing pain. Those denying the pain of unborn children or neonates argue this requires both a fully mature sensory and emotional or conscious capacity. But the ACPeds statement says such a test is no longer either scientifically or ethically tenable.

As recently at the late 1980s, as ACPeds points out, it was the consensus that babies, in the womb or even recently born,

did not feel pain, so that surgical procedures on neonates were generally performed without anesthesia.

But a “landmark” paper published in the November 1987 issue of the *New England*

period) were stuck in the abdomen with needles for in-utero blood transfusions.

Nociceptive responses (measurable anatomical and physiological responses of the body to hurtful stimuli) point

ACPeds says, “It is unethical to intentionally harm an innocent human being irrespective of the individual’s ability to perceive pain,” adding that now “a large body of scientific evidence demonstrates that painful or



Journal of Medicine by KJ Anand of Harvard Medical School and PR Hickey challenged that assumption. * They wrote that these children had the necessary anatomical structures to transmit pain signals and displayed the physiological and behavioral responses that were clear indicators of experiencing pain and even remembering previous painful events.

Based on their findings, Anand and Hickey recommended that these children be given local and general anesthesia during invasive procedures.

The science since that time has only confirmed and extended those insights. ** Stress hormone levels were shown to be elevated when unborn children at 18 weeks gestation (the statement does not make clear whether these are dates from fertilization or standard pregnancy dating from the mother’s last menstrual

to a much earlier experience of pain in developing unborn children. ***

The ACPeds statement notes, “Relying on connections to the cortex for the existence of pain is also refuted by clinical evidence in adults suggesting that neither ablation nor stimulation of the primary somatosensory cortex alters pain perception.” The statement immediately adds that those who would rely upon full connection and cortical development for proof of the reality of early fetal pain ignore how infants with missing or minimal cortexes (anencephalic and hydranencephalic babies) react and respond when exposed to painful or consoling stimuli.

Which leads to this powerful conclusion: “Taken together, the findings of these studies suggest that definitions of pain which hinge on possessing a mature conscious capacity requiring cortical functioning and connectedness, are outdated.”

noxious stimulation adversely affects immature human beings, both before and after birth.”

You don’t have to be a pro-lifer for the ACPeds’ conclusion, stated earlier, to very much resonate with you, just an ordinary caring human being: “Medicine’s double standard of acknowledging pain capability in wanted premature babies while denying it in unwanted unborn babies of the same gestational age is unconscionable.”

Footnotes

*Anand, KJS, Phil D, Hickey PR. Pain and its effects in the human neonate and fetus. *NEJM*. 1987; 317: 1321-1329.

**Some of this evidence is summarized and cited in National Right to Life’s fact sheet “Pain of the Unborn” found here: nrlc.org/uploads/factsheets/FS20UnbornPain.pdf

***For more on this research, see the January 2020 *NRL News*.

Five takeaways from Planned Parenthood's 2019-2020 Annual Report

By Dave Andrusko

As per usual, NRL Director of Education & Research Dr. Randall K. O'Bannon provided the definitive analysis of Planned Parenthood's 2019-2020 Annual Report. I would highly recommend you take the time to read it not once but twice at <https://bit.ly/30IWfdM>

Five is an arbitrary number. We could discuss ten takeaways from the latest 45 page self-congratulatory puff piece provided by this gigantic death-dealing "non-profit".

But five will do for starters.

To be clear about what timeframe we are talking about, Michael Haynes helpfully noted, "The report documents the 'patient care' provided by Planned Parenthood (PP) from October 1, 2018 until September 30, 2019, and presents the financial statistics for the year ending on June 30, 2020."

On to our five takeaways.

#1. Planned Parenthood is a monopoly in the making. PPFA already annihilates more than 41% of the babies aborted in the United States—their "market share" was just 14% in 1999—but they lust for more. That's why they close smaller clinics, such as in Fairview Heights, Illinois, that performed only chemically-induced abortions, and build a behemoth 18,000 square foot facility. The megaclinic pulls double duty by attracting women from nearby Missouri, a very pro-life state.

This aggressive outreach and consolidation is why, even as the overall number of abortions in the United States thankfully goes down, the 354,871 abortions PPFA performed in 2019 was not only

a 2.6% increase from 2018 but the greatest number ever for the "nation's largest abortion provider."

PPFA used to make a pass at being something more than just an assembly-line abortion machine. But as Dr. O'Bannon wrote, "Prenatal services and adoption referrals, already rare at Planned Parenthood, were

funding to Planned Parenthood increased from \$616.8 million to \$618.1 million in 2019-2020 [roughly a third of PPFA's \$1.6414 billion in revenues]. That's \$1.7 million taxpayer dollars daily."

Noteworthy, as Dr. O'Bannon wrote, "While several Planned Parenthood clinics actually closed during the pandemic,



down again for 2019. Just 8,626 women received prenatal care at Planned Parenthood clinics in 2019, and organization wide, just 2,667 women were referred for adoptions.

"That means there were more than 41 abortions at Planned Parenthood for every prenatal visit and Planned Parenthood took the lives of 133 unborn children for every mother they sent to some sort of adoption agency." (See #3 below for more on this.)

#2. Let's bunch three components together and see what they tell us. "Nearly one out of every six female clients visiting Planned Parenthood had an abortion," Carole Novielli writes. "Taxpayer

Planned Parenthood made it a point to keep many of its abortion clinics open or to reopen them as soon as possible."

This tells us (a) that abortion truly is PPFA's "identity" and no mere pandemic would stop them aborting helpless babies; defunding Planned Parenthood hasn't and won't be easy but well worth the effort; and (c) NRLC is correct when it says "When you think Planned Parenthood, think abortion."

#3. How do other services rank in priority? Dr. O'Bannon wrote

Services in general were up at Planned Parenthood, reaching above ten million

again for the first time since 2013, but only the number of abortions were at their highest. Some genuine health services were up slightly but far lower than they were previously while others continued to decline in number.

For example, "Cancer screenings" rose by about 32,000 but were still not even a third what they were ten years ago. Contraceptive services, Planned Parenthood's signature product, rose, but by less than 10,000, so they were still 1.4 million shy of their 2006 peak.

Novielli observed

Manual breast exams (Planned Parenthood does not perform mammograms) rose 1.75% from 265,028 in 2018 to 269,669 in 2019-2020. In the past decade, breast exams have fallen 68% from 830,312 in 2009 and over 75% from 1,086,654 in 2000.

#4. Lost in the gushy "Message from Our Leadership"—Alexis McGill Johnson, Planned Parenthood's president, and Aimee Cunningham, board chair—is this extremely revealing paragraph:

This year has affirmed for Planned

See "Takeaways," page 40

Why Born-Alive Abortion Survivor Protection Laws Are Needed

By Wesley J. Smith

Forty-eight Senate Democrats and independents recently filibustered the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, a bill that would legally require that babies who survive abortion be treated as any other infant of the same gestational maturity.

Reacting to the federal blockade, some red states are passing their own born-alive laws. South Dakota's was just signed into law. Kentucky enacted such an anti-infanticide measure. These laws are needed because some such born babies are neglected to death or killed.

But how many babies survive being aborted? Forty-six in four states in just the last few years, it turns out — and this compilation is incomplete since many states don't keep or report such statistics.

From LifeNews:

Babies do survive abortions, though no one is sure exactly how many.

Between 2016 and 2018, three states reported 40 babies were born alive after

abortions. According to the state health data, 11 babies were born alive in Minnesota, 10 in Arizona and 19 in Florida. Texas reported six babies were born alive in



botched abortions in 2019. In Michigan, state health reports from 2008 through 2013 indicate that 11 babies were born alive during abortions.

Reports from other countries prove that babies survive abortions, too, and legal protections for them are needed. In Canada, the Canadian

Institute of Health Information recorded 766 late-term, live-birth abortions over a five-year period in 2018. And in Australia, the country's health minister admitted that

27 babies survived abortions in the state of Western Australia between 1999 and 2016. A report out of Ireland in the fall also suggests babies are surviving abortions and being left to die there.

I don't see any excuse for opposing abortion-survivor laws — even if one is adamantly in favor of unlimited abortion

rights. A living baby outside the womb is not a fetus, but a neonate in medical terms. At that point, nobody is forcing the baby's mother to gestate against her will. No one is controlling her body. Indeed, *such laws do not prevent a single abortion* because they only apply in an abortion's aftermath.

But some will say *Roe v. Wade* protects against aborting babies that are viable by permitting state restrictions in the third trimester. Indeed, it does. *But it does not require that states enact such laws.* Nor does *Roe* prevent late term abortions.

Abortion-survivor laws promote the foundational moral principle of the West that all of us — including babies — are endowed with the equal right to life; not because we are healthy and wanted, but simply and merely because we are human.

Let us hope more states pass them since Democrats never will at the federal level.

Editor's note. Wesley's great columns are posted at National Review Online and are reposted with his permission.

Who counts? The great question of justice of our time

The choice is between exclusion and inclusion

By Paul Stark, Communications Director, Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL)

“Once or twice in a century an issue arises ... so deep in its foundations that it calls every person to take a stand,” wrote the late Judge John T. Noonan Jr.

Abortion is one of those issues. It’s different from most issues and concerns in our world today. It’s a *deeper* issue. It has to do with a foundational question for any individual and any society—one we can’t afford to ignore.

A lawyer was once told to love his neighbor. He responded, “And who is my neighbor?” That, in essence, is the question: *Who counts as one of us?* Or to put it another way: What’s the scope of the human family—the community of those who deserve the respect and protection of each other?

Rocks don’t count. Insects aren’t our neighbors, either. Rocks and insects aren’t “persons” who should be treated as ends in themselves. They don’t have rights. That’s why we may use them for our own purposes. We can discard or destroy them when they inconvenience us.

Some non-human animals (like dogs and dolphins), many think, should receive much more consideration than that. Nevertheless, most people don’t think animals share in our equal rights. We can own pets, for example, because they aren’t people. A gerbil isn’t one of us.

Toddlers and grandmothers, by contrast, certainly do count.

They are persons who deserve respect and bear equal basic rights. That means we have to treat them a certain way. We can’t manipulate them for our own ends. We can’t get rid of

has led, in each case, to catastrophic injustice.

Abortion raises the same question. Does a human embryo or fetus count as one of us? That’s the heart of the abortion

avoid this question miss the mark. Women have the right to choose, some say. We have the right to choose to do many things, but we don’t have the right to have innocent people destroyed. If unborn children are innocent people, then we don’t have a right to destroy them.

Women face difficult circumstances, others emphasize. But we may not kill already-born children when confronted with such circumstances. If unborn children really matter, like born children do, then we should address the challenges women too often face—but without killing anyone.

Many point to a woman’s right to control her own body. That’s important, but it’s not a right to attack and demolish the body of someone else (whom parents are also responsible for creating in the first place). If that other individual has human rights, then abortion definitely violates them.

Here’s the bottom line, as Greg Koukl puts it: “If the unborn is not a human person, no justification for abortion is necessary. However, if the unborn is a human person, no justification for abortion is adequate.”

So the question always comes back around: Does an unborn child count?



them when they impose on us. We can’t intentionally end their lives.

Who counts as one of us? It’s hard to think of any political, cultural, or moral question that is more important. Throughout history, it’s been at the center of most of humanity’s great debates about what justice requires. Do women count? Do African Americans count? Native Americans? Jews?

It’s crucial that we get the answers right. We haven’t always, and wrongful exclusion

debate. After all, abortion is the intentional destruction of that embryo or fetus. It happens almost 900,000 times each year in the U.S. alone. Is such killing okay, or is it unjust? Killing mosquitoes is okay because they don’t have a right to live. But do unborn children?

“The whole question,” observed Boston physician Horatio R. Storer more than 150 years ago, “turns on ... the real nature of the foetus in utero.”

Abortion arguments that



Memorials & Tributes

You, your family, and your friends may remember a deceased loved one by making a memorial contribution to National Right to Life. This memorial gift is a fitting way to remember a lifetime of love for the unborn at the time of death. Your contribution can also be made to commemorate birthdays, new arrivals, anniversaries, Mother's Day, Father's Day, or any other special occasion. An acknowledgment card in your name will be sent to the family or person you designate. The contribution amount remains confidential.

In Memory of

All the Babies Killed by Abortion

Deborah Martin

Joan P. Allgaier

Michael Allgaier

Jack Allison Sr.

Daniel Ramsey

Elizabeth Barth

Tom & Linda Theiring

Maurice Blumberg

Rose Churilla

Mike Cink

Kimberly Fall
Jerry Pingel
Anjanette Swingle

Mary Danneegar

Robert & Joanne Kinnison

Francine Davio

Julie Barney

Ronald N. Graver

Ushakant Gandhi
Belle & Chris Graver
Edward McCauley
Ewa Okla

Jennette Lamb Nicholson

Ross Taylor

Tommy Marcus

Michael Binkley

Dennis Martin

Marie Martin

Daniel A. Mercer

John & Carol Mercer

Mary Ellen Mulholland

Heather Baird

Jan Radich

Angie Gelhave

Evelyn Ring

Greg & Mary Ann Sullivan

Phyllis Ruwe

Ryan Ruwe

Megan Elise Schumann

Curtis & Julie Peck

Marie Sivinski

Margarita Hughes

Yvonne Sikora

Wanda Pfahler

Janice Winiger

Theresa Elliott
Derrick Jones
Harriett Winiger

Dorothy Wolfe

Wayne Wolfe

Kuang-HsinYu

Kim Clauss
William Hart

In Honor of

Matt Duray

Nancy Anderson

Margaret Morales

Phillip J. Morales

Todd Mazzola

Marilyn Moss

President Ronald Reagan

Tedd & Kay Haas

Carolyn Ruppert

David F. Ruppert

March 2021

You can make your contribution in loving memory or in honor of someone online at www.nrlc.org/giving or by sending your contribution along with the form below.



Memorials & Tributes

Contribution amount



Your name _____

In memory of _____ In honor of _____

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Name/Address for acknowledgment card _____

**Make your check payable to National Right to Life Committee and return with this form to:
National Right to Life Development Office
1446 Duke Street | Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

Biden administration fills vacancies with abundance of former abortion industry employees

By Carole Novielli

The Biden-Harris administration has been in the process of nominating or appointing ardent abortion supporters to fill various positions within the administration, including former Planned Parenthood staffers and supporters. A former top executive for Planned Parenthood once admitted that its “success” was linked to power and money, and he showed that taxpayer dollars enable the abortion corporation to recruit, hire, and pay its top staffers six-digit salaries. In addition, Planned Parenthood funds politicians who, in turn, support their radical abortion agenda — and some of those same politicians then hire former Planned Parenthood staffers.

NOMINEES/APPOINTEES CONNECTED TO PLANNED PARENTHOOD

Ginna “Virginia” Lance, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative

Ginna Lance has been appointed the Deputy Chief of Staff for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR). According to the USTR website, Lance previously worked in the Office of then-VP Joe Biden, where she served as the Director of Scheduling and Administrative Manager to the Chief Experience Officer at Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Jesse Lawder, Department of Labor

The Biden administration recently tapped Jesse Lawder

to be Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Public Affairs. According to his LinkedIn page, Lawder was the former VP of Marketing and Communications for Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri. That affiliate operates the only abortion facility in Missouri — Reproductive Health Services Planned



Pro-abortion President Joe Biden

Parenthood — which has had multiple reports of abortion-related emergencies over the years and is suspected to only be referring for abortions at this time.

According to the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, “Lawder noted in a news release that while at Planned Parenthood he had “worked to protect the last abortion clinic in Missouri, roll out new telehealth services during the pandemic and led a successful unveiling of (a) ... new Fairview Heights health center.” (That health center, located in Illinois, is the facility where the St. Louis Planned Parenthood is now referring abortion clients.)

In announcing his move to

the Biden Department of Labor, Lawder was immediately congratulated by members of the media on Twitter, including Kate Smith from CBS News, Kathryn Diss from ABC News, and Sarah Lynch of Reuters.

Mini Timmaraju, U.S. Office of Personnel Management

Mini Timmaraju has been appointed to a staff position at

the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM). According to the OPM website, her “prior roles include National Women’s Vote Director for Hillary for America, Chief of Staff for Congressman Ami Bera, and leadership positions with Planned Parenthood and the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans.”

According to her LinkedIn page, Timmaraju was a director at Planned Parenthood Federation of America and a VP of Public Affairs and Government Relations at the infamous Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast as well as others. She once tweeted praises of Margaret Sanger, the racist founder of Planned Parenthood,

calling the white supremacist a “reformer, nurse, birth control advocate and founder of Planned Parenthood!”

Xavier Becerra, nominee for Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services

Biden has nominated California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to serve as secretary for the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) despite his complete lack of experience in health care. Becerra is hostile towards pro-life activists, even targeting Center for Medical Progress (CMP) investigators who exposed Planned Parenthood’s participation in the trafficking of aborted baby body parts. The HHS nominee also attempted (and failed) to force pro-life pregnancy resource centers (PRCs) — which offer life-affirming help to pregnant women — to promote abortion.

Planned Parenthood praised the Biden pick, writing, “As California attorney general, Becerra fought against the Trump administration to protect the ACA and the Title X program, challenged the administration’s racist public charge rule, and defended a state law that required so-called ‘crisis pregnancy centers’ to provide accurate information to their patients.”

Jen O’Malley Dillon, White House Deputy Chief of Staff

Jen O’Malley Dillon who once referred to Republicans as

See “Biden,” page 41

He refused assisted suicide after brain cancer. Now he's running triathlons.

By Cassy Fiano-Chesser

Colin Clark, a 57-year-old who lives in Hawaii, has always been athletic. But after receiving a diagnosis of brain cancer, he considered assisted suicide, scared he would be a burden on his family. Instead, though, he chose to live — and now he's made an incredible recovery.

In November of 2019, Clark began noticing that his left hand was twitching, or that it would slip off the table. He thought it was just due to his busy schedule, which included competing in triathlons. But after one race, he began having seizures. After being referred to Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles and undergoing a biopsy, he was given a devastating diagnosis: stage 4 glioblastoma.

"We had to tell Colin, his wife and their daughter, Nadja, the unfortunate news that yes, he did indeed have brain cancer, and surgical removal of the tumor was not an option," Dr. Jeremy Rudnick said in a Cedars-Sinai press release. "But, as we do for all our patients, we assured Colin we would pull out all of our heavy artillery and focus on preserving his quality of life. In his case, our goal was getting him back in his running shoes, into the ocean to swim and onto his bicycle for long rides."

Clark's condition was already difficult for him to bear: the formerly athletic man found

himself bedbound and reliant on a wheelchair, so his thoughts turned dark. "His main concern was for his wife and daughter," neurosurgeon Keith Black told KHON2. "He was actually contemplating physician-assisted suicide, so as not to be a burden on his family."

He thought it would be too much of a hardship for his wife and daughter to care for him. "When I first learned I had terminal cancer, I contemplated forgoing treatment and opting in to end-of-life options," Clark said in the Cedars-Sinai release. "The last thing I wanted was for my wife of 26 years or my 25-year-old daughter to take care of me while I lay in bed sick and dying."

This fear is common among people who seek out assisted suicide. Data from Oregon found that the majority of people who wished to die cited a loss of autonomy as the reason why. Multiple studies in well-respected medical journals likewise found that people seek assisted suicide because they are hopeless, afraid of being a burden, have little to no support, and are depressed — not because they are afraid of a painful death.

His medical team, however, urged him to fight and not give up. And their support helped. "I made a choice to use what time I had left to exploit boundaries and build communities," Clark said. "For me, this means

encouraging and inspiring other patients to give life everything they have."

Clark underwent six weeks of chemotherapy and radiation, and the treatment miraculously worked. His tumor began to

competing in triathlons. And he hopes his story will inspire other people struggling with diagnoses like his. "I still have the tumor. One day, it will take me out. But it could be months. It could be years. It could be



Colin Clark

shrink, and surgeries relieved the pressure on his brain. Though he still needed a wheelchair, his wife helped him to regain his strength. "I was wheeled into rehabilitation, but when I left three weeks later, I walked out of the facility. Slowly, but I walked out on my own. This diagnosis has taught me that it's better to start small and do something at 70%, than never try because you cannot do 100% right away," he said. "Natascha and I set goals each night for the following day. Even if it's something small — like getting my T-shirt or socks on by myself — we put our energy and effort behind it."

Though it took time, a year later, Clark was back to

seven years, or one year," he told KHON2. "What we've decided to do is just have as much quality of life as we can and just keep going. Doing new things. I'm gardening right now. I've never gardened before. I'm trying to cook and bake, this banana bread is getting ready, I can smell it. Whatever you haven't done in the best that you want to do, do those things! Have each other's backs and staying in touch because some people go quiet and you think they're okay, well they may not be okay. Just keep in touch with friends and colleagues."

Editor's note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.

Arizona Senate approval bill to ban abortions based on genetic anomalies such as Down syndrome, SB 1457 on to the House

By Dave Andrusko

Step by step the state of Arizona is steadily advancing a bill that would ban abortions based on a prenatal diagnosis of a genetic anomaly such as Down syndrome. Arizona already prohibits abortions because of an unborn baby's race or sex.

After winning preliminary approval on February 24, SB 1457 received final approval last week. The bill now moves on to the House.

SB 1457, sponsored by state Sen. Nancy Barto, includes other important components, such as prohibiting abortion drugs from being sent through the mails, preventing tax payer dollars from going to organizations that promote abortions, and requiring a burial or cremation of the remains of an aborted baby.

There is strong support for bills that would abortions simply because of a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. In a Maris poll conducted for the Knights of Columbus [<http://kofc.org/en/newsroom/polls/american-abortion-opinions-remain-consistent.html>], "70% of Americans oppose abortion if the child will be born with Down Syndrome," including 56% who identify as pro-choice."

Reporting for *Capital Media Services* Howard Fischer wrote]

At the heart of SB 1457 is a legislative declaration that Arizona laws



recognize that an unborn child has "all rights, privileges and immunities available to other persons, citizens and residents of this state." The only limits would be the U.S. Constitution as interpreted by the Supreme Court.

"There are incredible numbers of people that appreciate those children that have come into the world with a

genetic abnormality like Down [syndrome] or other serious issues that are genetic," Sen. Barto said. "And once they were born, they've meant so much to their families, to the world. They've gone on to live

productive, wonderful lives. That's what we're protecting here."

Pro-abortion Democrats, naturally, oppose the bill.

"Abortion is clearly a very personal issue," said state Sen. Kirsten Engel, D-Tucson Engel."It's a complex decision and so much more so when a family receives the diagnosis from a doctor that the child may have a genetic abnormality."

But Fischer reported that Sen. Barton responded that the bill protects women.

"What we're doing here by not addressing this issue is we're hurting the most vulnerable among us and making a judgment that they are unworthy to live," she said.

Week before last, the Senate Appropriations Committee took testimony on the measure before giving it unanimous approval.

Pro-life state Sen. Wendy Rogers said, "This gives voice to those who have no voice," adding, "Who are we as a country if we cannot protect those who cannot protect themselves?"

Bills banning abortion because of genetic anomaly, race, and/or gender have passed in seventeen states.

One Circuit Court—the 6th—gave the state of Tennessee a big victory when it ruled the state could begin enforcing a ban on abortion when the abortionist knows that the woman is seeking the abortion because of the child's sex or race or if he knows the woman is seeking an abortion because of a diagnosis of Down syndrome.

Another—the 8th circuit — upheld a decision overturning an Arkansas law banning abortions when the unborn child is diagnosed with Down syndrome, but the concurring opinions pointed a way forward.

Pro-Abortion Democrats Vote in Favor of Abortion Funding in \$1.9 Trillion Reconciliation Package

From page 1

need it most. All five bills had the normal language that prevents the use of taxpayers' dollars to pay for abortions. But, now Democrats have determined that this partisan COVID bill should direct American tax dollars to abortions. Funding during a pandemic should save lives, not take lives. Abortion funding should not be in a COVID-19 pandemic bill. This shouldn't be controversial.

(For more, see below.)

Passage of this measure stands in stark contrast to an array of long-established laws, including the Hyde Amendment, which have created a nearly uniform policy that federal programs do not pay for abortion or subsidize health plans that include coverage of abortion, with narrow exceptions. The COVID-19 reconciliation bill is a dramatic departure from this long-standing policy.

While Congressional Democrats virtually uniformly support taxpayer funding of abortion, a strong majority of Americans have for decades consistently opposed taxpayer funding of abortion at home and abroad. There is a reason Congressional Democrats have targeted the Hyde Amendment. It has proven itself to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress, and is widely recognized as having a significant impact on the number of abortions in the United States, saving over an estimated two million lives.

Background

In the middle of the week before last, the Senate took up the house-passed bill. At that point, the legislation became subject to the "Byrd rule" which restricts what can be included in reconciliation legislation in the Senate.

In a strong effort led by Sens. Lankford and Steve Daines (R-Mont.), there was an attempt to craft amendments to resolve the bulk of the issues

related to taxpayer-funded abortion. Unfortunately, these amendments were found by the Senate Parliamentarian to violate the Byrd rule. Consequently, the amendments required 60 votes, not a simple majority, for passage.

One of the Lankford Amendments (co-sponsored by Senator Daines) would have applied Hyde-related language to prevent taxpayer funding of abortion in certain provisions in the COVID relief plan reconciliation package.

governments to use these funds to pay for abortion and abortion providers in the name of "responding to or mitigating the public health emergency."

In addition, the Biden administration recently announced their intention to rescind the current rule related to Title X, indicating that funds will again go to organizations that promote and perform abortions. Under the Trump Administration's Title X rule, abortion facilities could not be housed in the same location

domestically or internationally, which shall include maintaining Department of State operations." This \$204 million is not subject to the protections of the Helms Amendment which state that "foreign assistance funds may be used to pay for the performance of abortion as a method of family planning." The failure to include this important protection means that these funds could be spent on abortion.

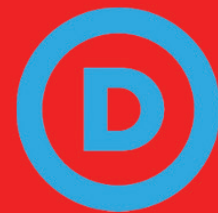
Additionally, \$500 million is appropriated for the foreign humanitarian response, again

The vast majority of Americans do not want their tax dollars to pay for abortions. These pro-abortion Senate Democrats voted for taxpayer funding of abortion.

Kyrsten Sinema, AZ
Mark Kelly, AZ
Diane Feinstein, CA
Alex Padilla, CA
Michael Bennet, CO
John Hickenlooper, CO
Richard Blumenthal, CT
Chris Murphy, CT
Tom Carper, DE
Chris Coons, DE
Jon Ossoff, GA
Raphael Warnock, GA
Brian Schatz HI
Mazie Hirono HI
Dick Durbin IL
Tammy Duckworth IL
Angus King ME
Ben Cardin MD
Chris Van Hollen, MD
Elizabeth Warren, MA
Ed Markey, MA

Debbie Stabenow, MI
Gary Peters, MI
Amy Klobuchar, MN
Tina Smith, MN
Jon Tester, MT
Catherine Cortez Masto, NV
Jacky Rosen, NV
Jeanne Shaheen, NH
Maggie Hassan, NH
Bob Menendez, NJ
Cory Booker, NJ
Martin Heinrich, NM
Ben Ray Lujan, NM
Chuck Schumer, NY
Kirsten Gillibrand NY
Sherrod Brown, OH
Ron Widen, OR
Jeff Merkley, OR
Sheldon Whitehouse, RI
Jack Reed, RI
Patrick Leahy, VT

Bernie Sanders, VT
Mark Warner, VA
Patty Murray, WA
Maria Cantwell, WA
Tammy Baldwin, WI



On this vote to apply the Hyde Amendment, all 49 Republicans present voted for the amendment and against abortion funding. They were joined by Democrat Senators Joe Manchin (D-W. Va.), Bob Casey, Jr. (D-Penn.), and Tim Kaine (D-Va.) who also voted for the amendment. While the vote was 52-47, it fell eight votes short of the needed 60 votes. (Pro-life Republican Senator Dan Sullivan of Alaska was absent due to a death in the family.)

The COVID-19 reconciliation legislation directs \$219 billion to state, and \$130 billion to local, governments "to mitigate the fiscal effects stemming from" COVID-19. The Hyde Amendment was not applied to these funds. Consequentially, it is possible for state and local

where family planning services were delivered. The rule did not cut funding for family planning but ensured that funding went to health facilities that did not perform or promote abortion as family planning.

In previous Democrat administrations, the Title X program was identified as Planned Parenthood's largest source of discretionary funding. Democrats, in the reconciliation bill, will now add an additional \$50 million to this program.

The abortion expansive provisions do not stop at domestic funding, but extend to international abortion funding as well.

The legislation authorizes \$204 million for State Department expenses to "prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus

"to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus." Similarly, these millions are not subject to the protections of the Helms Amendment.

There is a high risk that these funds will directly fund abortion. In fact, U.N. agencies have issued COVID-19 guidance emphasizing the importance of abortion access during the pandemic and have even offered information on how to circumvent abortion restrictions, in violation of the laws of many nations.

On the final vote, all 50 Democrats voted in favor, and all 49 Republicans against.

National Right to Life scorecards for the 117th Congress can be found here: <https://cqrcengage.com/nrlc/scorecards>

“Sliding toward what amounts to a system of death on demand”

By Dave Andrusko

For me, it’s an axiom that pro-death forces inevitably overshoot the mark. Whether the issue is abortion—and the Biden-Harris promise to spread the abortion plague hither and yon paid for by you and me—or “assisted death,” proponents lull the public to sleep with insincere assurances as they quietly expand the categories of people they will kill, thinking no one will notice until it’s too late.

A key turning point is when proponents of abortion or “assisted death” suddenly discover to their chagrin what they have unleashed. These are people who are not by any means where we are but who can be instrumental in standing against the most lethal extensions of the pro-death ethos.

I thought of that when I read Alex Schadenberg’s fine blog post about the *Toronto Star*’s second thoughts on a proposed bill to extend assisted death to people that supporters had been assured would NOT be affected.

The *Toronto Star* editorial is written in a more in sorrow than in anger style. They tell the reader as far back as a year ago, they were worried that “the right to medical assistance in dying, or MAID”—which they approve of—“was at risk of being stretched far beyond its

original conception” to “a so-called ‘death with dignity’”—which the *Star* editorial board decidedly does not approve of.

Put another way, “We sounded a warning that Canada seemed to be sliding toward what amounts to a system of death on demand.”

The editorial tells us (correctly) that there are aspects to “Bill C-7” that “many

(by making “it more likely they will accept assisted suicide rather than be provided with proper treatment and supports”), but also to “extending the right to assisted suicide to people whose only underlying medical condition, their sole reason for seeking death, is suffering due to a mental illness.”

Then comes the first alarming but prescient warning: “The



doctors, ethicists and even experts from the United Nations find deeply problematic.”

The key is the elimination of the requirement that “a patient’s death be ‘reasonably foreseeable.’” This “opens the door” not only to undermining “the rights of disabled people”

potential for abuse is both obvious and frightening.”

There is much more to this editorial. Let me mention just two more aspects in closing.

#1. Bill C-7 didn’t need to be. It represents a wildly disproportionate and mistaken response by the Trudeau

government to one Quebec Superior Court 2019 ruling by one judge which “The government could have, indeed should have, appealed that flawed decision. Instead, it promised to bring the law into line with this one lower-court ruling, launched lengthy consultations on the whole issue of MAID, and eventually came up with a series of proposed changes laid out in Bill C-7.”

#2. “All this is a far cry from what most people accepted as a valid, indeed compassionate, reason for legalizing assisted suicide back in 2016,” the editorial maintains. “And none of it has been as fully aired as it would be — and should be — if the pandemic wasn’t dominating almost every public moment.”

The importance of the absence of a full “airing” cannot be exaggerated. This is how terrible laws often get passed.

Take a few minutes to read and digest “Trudeau government should rethink its flawed changes to assisted dying” [www.thestar.com/opinion/editorials/2021/02/26/trudeau-government-should-rethink-its-flawed-changes-to-assisted-dying.html].

This is what the merciless assisted suicide crew has in mind for the United States of America.

Forewarned is forearmed.

The pro-life movement IS a guiding star to a humanity suffering under the weight of an anti-life agenda

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

I felt like doing something different for my birthday this year. Normally, I take a vacation day and spend my time with family and friends, enjoying a few treats along the way. But given COVID-19 restrictions, entertainment options are limited.

But I also felt something tugging deep in my heart. I wanted to spend the day giving back in thanksgiving for the years of life I have been able to enjoy. I am so grateful for my time on planet Earth, and for the most recent trip around the sun.

So I decided that this year my customary day off would turn into a day on—a day to devote myself to helping to save precious lives. I wanted to spend my birthday ensuring that other people have a chance to celebrate theirs. I decided to make my birthday a pro-life day of service to my community and my country.

The work of National Right to Life and its state affiliates is vital, legacy-producing, and noble. It is a kind, compassionate response

life-affirming action for themselves and their families. It is offering a breath of hope in a world that can seem to be suffocating from despair. It is

provides a guiding star to a humanity suffering under the weight of an anti-life agenda. It is a privilege and an honor to spend a birthday working



to the tragedies of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia in our midst. It involves shining a light over a landscape of despair, pointing the way toward a culture that will embrace life rather than try to nullify it.

It is the work of empowering women so that they can take

lobbying and legislating, but also helping and healing. It is renewing our beloved country one article...one phone call...one post...and one tweet at a time.

Countless lives have been saved and hearts have been forever changed as a result of the pro-life movement, which

toward the day when every child is cherished, each fragile senior is protected, and every person with a disability is given the full respect he or she deserves.

Here's hoping your next birthday will be as happy and as life-giving as mine will be

Who counts? The great question of justice of our time

From page 14

This is the great question of justice of our time. And answering it requires asking another foundational question: What's the basis (or criteria) for being a "person" or having human rights? What determines whether or not someone counts?

Some people have thought that gender is relevant to whether (or how much) someone counts. Or skin color. Or ethnicity. Or religion.

Most people now (correctly) recognize that those traits don't determine human rights. In today's abortion debate, though, many do think rights depend on physical appearance, cognitive ability, independence from others, or the attitude of someone else.

If our rights hinge on such characteristics—traits that some humans have and others don't—then unborn humans

might not meet the threshold. And others (those who are too young, too old, too disabled, too unwanted) might not either. This is an *exclusive* view of human rights.

But if we have human rights by virtue of what we are (i.e., simply because we are human), then **all** humans matter. Science shows that embryos and fetuses are living members of the species *Homo sapiens*. Each

of us, indeed, was once one of them. So if all humans matter, then unborn humans matter. This is an *inclusive* view of human rights.

The choice, then, is between exclusion and inclusion. And everyone, Judge Noonan said, must take a stand. In this debate over the scope of our human family, as in all prior such debates, the stakes are just too high to do otherwise.

Julia Letlow Endorsed by NRLC in Louisiana Special Election

By Karen Cross, National Right to Life Political Director

On December 29, 2020, Louisiana's 5th District Congressman-elect Luke Letlow (R) passed away due to complications caused by Covid-19, just five days before he was due to take office. A special election will be held on March 20, 2021, to find his replacement.

Running for the open seat is his widow Julia Letlow. She is strongly pro-life and endorsed by National Right to Life.

"Julia Letlow supports pro-life legislation," said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life. "She supports compassionate proposals to safeguard unborn children and their mothers from the pain of abortion."

Julia Letlow supports the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. This legislation would protect unborn children at 20 weeks, a point by which the unborn child is capable of

experiencing great pain when being killed by dismemberment or other late abortion methods. She also opposes using taxpayer dollars to pay for abortion, and she opposes taxpayer funding of abortion providers.

It is imperative that Julia Letlow win the open seat in Louisiana's 5th so that she may stand up to the extreme pro-abortion agenda of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Ca.) and her pro-abortion majority.

They are advancing dangerous proposals to force taxpayers to fund abortions and to trample on rights of conscience. This includes eliminating the life-saving Hyde Amendment, which for decades has prevented streams of government money from funding abortions.

"Julia Letlow will work to see that all innocent human life is protected, and she is committed to strengthening a culture of life throughout the nation and in the U.S. House," said Tobias. "We look forward to working with Julia Letlow to protect the most vulnerable members of the human family."

In Louisiana all candidates, regardless of party, compete on the same ballot. If no candidate wins more than 50% of the vote, the top two finishers would advance to an April 24th runoff.

In 2020, Donald Trump carried the 5th district by a margin of 30 points over pro-abortion Joe Biden.

In the runoff for the seat in the 2020 election, the top two finishers were both Republicans. If Letlow were to win, she would join an historic class of newly elected pro-life women to serve in the 117th Congress which already numbers 19.

The special election is Saturday, March 20. Early voting began Saturday, March 6.

**national
RIGHT TO LIFE
ENDORSED**

JULIA LETLOW
for Louisiana's
5th Congressional District

**EARLY VOTING BEGINS SATURDAY, MARCH 6TH
ELECTION DAY IS SATURDAY, MARCH 20TH**

Toronto Star Editorial: Trudeau government should rethink its flawed changes to assisted dying

By Alex Schadenberg, Executive Director, Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

When the *Toronto Star*, which is usually a Liberal newspaper and is supportive of Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID), says in its editorial that the Trudeau government's changes to the euthanasia law are flawed, then you know that the message is getting out.

The February 26 *Toronto Star* editorial stated:

Twelve months ago, before the COVID-19 pandemic overwhelmed our lives and pushed almost every other issue to the margins of public attention, we sounded a warning that Canada seemed to be sliding toward what amounts to a system of death on demand.

We worried that the right to medical assistance in dying, or MAID, was at risk of being stretched far beyond its original conception: to ease the pain of suffering people in the final stage of life, of allowing them a so-called "death with dignity."

Today, that possibility is no longer a risk but a reality...

As it stands now, Bill C-7 would greatly expand the right to MAID in ways that many doctors, ethicists and even experts from the United Nations find deeply problematic. By eliminating the requirement that a patient's death be "reasonably

foreseeable," they say the bill will undermine the rights of disabled people and make it more likely they will accept assisted suicide rather than be provided with proper treatment and supports.

The bill even opens the door to extending the right to assisted

foreseeable" is unconstitutional.

The government could have, indeed should have, appealed that flawed decision. Instead, it promised to bring the law into line with this one lower-court ruling, launched lengthy consultations on the whole issue of

grounds for demanding the right to an assisted death.

You don't have to ponder this too long to see the potential for tragic outcomes. No doubt some people suffer in a "grievous" (the law's language) way from mental illness, but surely those very conditions put an enormous question mark over their capacity to make final, irreversible decisions.



suicide to people whose only underlying medical condition, their sole reason for seeking death, is suffering due to a mental illness. The potential for abuse is both obvious and frightening.

Again, these comments are from the *Toronto Star* editorial, not the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition. The editorial continued:

Nor is any of this necessary. The federal government is bringing in these changes as a response to a Quebec Superior Court ruling in 2019, in which the judge decided that the law's provision that death must be "reasonably

MAID, and eventually came up with a series of proposed changes laid out in Bill C-7. The Commons adopted them, then the Senate weighed in with amendments, and this week the government said it would accept some of those proposals.

One is that the right to MAID would be extended to people who are suffering solely from an underlying mental illness, though that wouldn't take effect for two years. This is a complete about-face for the government, since its first version of C-7 explicitly excluded mental illness as

The *Toronto Star* editorial also disagrees with the euthanasia lobby but agree with the disability groups:

Advocates for the change say it's discriminatory not to include mental illness, and argue that the law must respect the autonomy of the individual, the right of everyone to decide their own fate regardless of the type of medical condition they are suffering from.

That sounds lofty, but as many psychiatrists and advocates point out, how much true autonomy does a person have if society doesn't offer them proper support to live their lives as fully as possible, if they are marginalized, unable to earn a living or access treatment, and

See "Flawed," page 26

Federal District Judge Contreras, Obama Appointee, Rules That the Ratification Deadline for the 1972 Equal Rights Amendment Was Valid

From page 1

valid, and not subject to later manipulations by Congress.

With respect to the constitutionality of the deadline, Judge Contreras agreed with the arguments raised by the intervenor-defendant states (Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, Nebraska, and South Dakota). Contreras ruled that the fact that Congress included the deadline in the Proposing Clause (not “preamble”) of the ERA resolution (as Congress has done with every constitutional amendment proposed since 1960) had no bearing on its legally binding nature.

Judge Contreras did not decide several issues that had been argued by some of the parties, holding that they were hypothetical or otherwise unnecessary to decide under current circumstances. Those issues included whether a state has a right to rescind its ratification before a deadline (as five states did with respect to the ERA, including intervenor-defendants Tennessee, Nebraska, and South Dakota), and the constitutionality of any hypothetical future action by Congress to retroactively revive the 1972 ERA.

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) on March 2 announced that the U.S. House of Representatives will take up a measure that purports to “remove” the ERA ratification deadline, during the week of March 15.



District Judge Rudolph Contreras

Douglas D. Johnson, senior policy advisor for National Right to Life and director of its ERA Project, said, “Democratic congressional leaders and attorneys general are part of a political-pressure campaign to intimidate the federal courts into permitting them to air-drop the long-expired ERA into the Constitution. Today, a federal judge appointed by President

Obama ignored the political pressures and unflinchingly enforced the Constitution.”

Johnson said: “The upcoming votes in Congress are another chapter in the political-pressure campaign directed at the courts. The Constitution does not empower Congress to time travel to 1972 to resuscitate a long-dead constitutional amendment.”

The “deadline removal” measure (currently H.J. Res. 17, S.J. Res. 1) is expected to narrowly pass the House of Representatives, where only one Republican has co-sponsored it, “but it has a much steeper climb in the Senate,” Johnson said. “The Democrats’ position that the current Congress, by simple majority votes, can retroactively revise a measure that passed Congress in 1972 by the constitutionally required two-thirds margins, is absurd on its face.”

On February 10, 2020, in remarks at Georgetown University Law Center, the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg indicated that she believes the proper approach for ERA supporters, such as herself, is “a new beginning. I’d like it to start over.” Virginia’s then-

recent adoption of an ERA resolution was, she said, “long after the deadline passed.” If such “a latecomer” were to be recognized, she suggested, “how can you disregard states that said, ‘We’ve changed our minds’?”

National Right to Life opposes the 1972 ERA because it is likely to be employed as a textual constitutional foundation for judicial rulings that would invalidate virtually any state or federal law or policy that impedes access to abortion, or even that has a “disparate impact” on the availability of abortion. The 1972 ERA language is also likely to be construed to require state and federal health program to fund abortions without limitation. You can download a five-page factsheet, containing footnoted quotes from leaders and attorneys associated with numerous prominent abortion-rights organizations proclaiming the ERA-abortion connection, here: www.nrlc.org/uploads/era/ERA-AbortionQuotesheet3-5-20.pdf

Baby dies after man tricks pregnant girlfriend into taking abortion pill

By Laura Nicole

A man in Japan has been arrested after tricking his pregnant girlfriend into taking mifepristone, the first chemical used in the abortion pill regimen.

On February 22, 21-year-old Jin Mimae was taken into custody for attempting abortion without consent. After being apprehended, he admitted to the charges, telling police, "I didn't want to marry her," according to *Tokyo Reporter*. He added, "Because of the current economic conditions, I did not want to raise a child."

The victim is believed to be Mimae's 18-year-old girlfriend, who took the pills he gave her after Mimae told her they were a treatment for a sexually-transmitted disease. At the time, she was five weeks pregnant.

According to *Asahi.com*, days earlier, the girl had told Mimae she had a positive pregnancy test and made an appointment with her doctor the following day. Police believe Mimae ordered mifepristone over the internet on the day of the test. Mifepristone is not an approved drug in Japan, and may not be given to another person due to potential side effects such as severe hemorrhage, *Mainichi.jp* reports.

At the girl's appointment, Mimae reportedly demanded the girl get an abortion, which she refused, saying she wanted to keep the baby. Police believe he later gave her two doses of the drug under false pretenses in his brother's apartment on September 24, 2020, four days after the doctor's appointment.

After taking the pills, she began to feel unwell and

suspected the drugs had been to induce an abortion. She reported her suspicions to local police, who found mifepristone in her blood and urine samples. In October, she suffered a miscarriage.

Mifepristone, the first pill in the abortion pill regimen,

preborn child, he could face between six months and seven years in prison.

This is tragically not an isolated incident. Abortion businesses have financial incentives to expand access to the abortion pill. As *Live Action News* has previously

and then taking her to Planned Parenthood where he posed as her father and forced her to obtain the abortion pill. In 2018, a man who slipped the abortion pill into his girlfriend's drink and fled the country was convicted and sentenced to 22 years in prison.



works to block the natural hormone progesterone, which helps to sustain the pregnancy and nourish the developing baby. Deprived of nutrients, the baby dies. Then the second pill, misoprostol, causes contractions and expels the deceased baby from the uterus. The risks for the woman include hemorrhage, incomplete abortion, infection, and death. Former abortionist, Dr. Anthony Levatino, explains how the abortion pill works in the video below:

If Mimae is convicted of the attempted abortion of his

reported, the abortion industry is grossing approximately \$200 million annually from abortion pill sales as of 2020. Online do-it-yourself abortion pill businesses have been pushing the abortion pill globally, even in nations where abortion is illegal, which has proven to be dangerous for women.

In addition to causing health risks for women, the abortion pill allows sexual predators and domestic abusers to exploit women and cover their tracks. Last month, a school security guard in Omaha was accused of raping a 15-year-old girl

When a woman takes just the first dose of the abortion pill regimen, it may be possible to stop the abortion and reverse the effects of mifepristone through the use of progesterone. Anyone who has taken the first dose of the abortion pill and has changed her mind can contact *Abortion Pill Rescue* online or by calling 855-209-4848.

Editor's note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.

“AngelEye” allows family to keep a watchful eye 24/7 on hospitalized babies separated by COVID-19

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

I know of a premature baby who spent more than 100 days in the neonatal intensive care unit. The separation from family was all the more difficult because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, her grandmother was able to keep a watchful eye on her from afar, thanks to the miracle of technology. A video camera in the NICU enabled her to see her precious grandchild via a screen. It was the next best thing to being there.

But my friend’s experience was not unique. For instance, Penn State’s Children’s Hospital bought more than 50 “AngelEye” cameras in 2020 through a grant offered by the Children’s Miracle Network. As one family told *Penn State Health News*, they were able to view a 24-hour-a-day, seven-

day-a-week “show” of their baby Penelope. The “Penelope Show” kept them entertained and informed as their little



girl weathered surgeries for a clubbed foot and cleft palate.

Meanwhile, the *Valdosta Daily Times* has reported about the AngelEye system used by

the South Georgia Medical Center. As hospital officials told the news outlet, “This is especially beneficial for parents

with babies in the NICU. Leaving a newborn at the hospital can be very challenging for working parents and remote families.”

“Virtual care technology can make a big difference in allowing parents 24/7 access to their newborn ensuring more effective collaboration between care teams and families,” the hospital officials added.

Because of continued concerns about her grandchild’s health, even after she came home from the hospital, my friend is unable to see her granddaughter face-to-face. She is praying for the day when Coronavirus is a memory and she can hold her grandchild in her arms. Yet she will always treasure those days when a video system enabled her to watch her grand baby receive loving care from a dedicated nursing staff dedicated to doing everything possible to preserve life.

Trudeau government should rethink its flawed changes to assisted dying

From page 23

feel they are a burden to others? Won’t they feel pressure to take advantage of an expanded MAID system just to escape all that? Is that really what we want — to set up a system where more and more people feel disposable, and in fact become disposable?

All that may apply to people with chronic conditions or disabilities as well, which is why hundreds of organizations

advocating for them have come out against C-7. Added to that is a team of UN experts who concluded that the bill violates the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which Canada has ratified. “Disability should never be a ground or justification to end someone’s life directly or indirectly,” they wrote. “Such legislative provisions would institutionalize

and legally authorize ableism.”

The *Toronto Star* editorial challenges other parts of the bill and then finishes by urging the government to get it right.

The government’s proposed bill includes other questionable changes as well. For one, it would eliminate a 10-day waiting period between the request for MAID by a person whose death is foreseeable and its carrying-out, a pause

designed to make sure there aren’t second thoughts. Only one witness, not two, would be required.

It’s important that we get this right. Better to put up with more delay than to rush through a flawed bill that hasn’t had the full public debate it deserves. The government should think again.

Editor’s note. This appeared on Mr. Schadenberg’s blog and is reposted with permission.

Post-Abortion woman: “Every time I heard a baby cry it was like a knife turning in my heart.”

By Sarah Terzo

From a post-abortive woman named Bernadette:

“I became pregnant in my late teens, and 10 weeks into the pregnancy I had an abortion. A trusted doctor assured me that the procedure would be simple, effective, with no after effects. I was never told that abortion would lead to deep depression, that every time I heard a baby cry it was like a knife turning in my heart. Abortion is supposed to be a quick fix for an unwanted pregnancy, but there is no quick fix for regret, grief and the pain of loss.

“The most powerful witnesses for the humanity of the unborn are not scientists, but mothers who mourn. We women are not crying over products of conception. We are crying over the deaths of our children.”

“I had an abortion at ten weeks.” Love Them Both — Visited February 1, 2018.

Editor’s note. This appeared at Clinic Quotes and is reposted with permission. Sarah Terzo is offering a short, free pro-life eBook that exposes the prochoice movement. Go to <https://dogged-teacher-2896.ck.page/376aa2df8a>



New Mexico Gov. signs abortion on demand bill into law

By Dave Andrusko

On February 26, an overjoyed pro-abortion Gov. Lujan Grisham signed Senate Bill 10 into law, making New Mexico, an already very abortion-friendly state, into a wide-open abortion-on-demand haven.

Even by pro-abortion standards, her press release was a head scratcher. After the pro-forma “A woman has the right to make decisions about her own body,” Grisham added, “Anyone who seeks to violate bodily integrity, or to criminalize womanhood, is in the business of dehumanization.”

“Criminalizing womanhood”?

Presumably that is a bizarre reference to the non-enforceable 1969 law which SB 110 repealed.

But, as is the case in all states with laws passed prior to 1973, the statute is not in effect because of *Roe v. Wade*. Sponsors used the possible reversal of *Roe* to propose legislation that far exceeds the reach of the decision that overturned the abortion laws of all 50 states.

A passing comment in a story by KRQE added this non-sequitur:

Many supporters of the bill, including Lujan

Grisham, believe that ensuring protections for abortion rights in New Mexico will save the lives of people seeking abortion care.

In fact, of course, the law can have only one effect: add to the 3,110 aborted babies the CDC reported for New Mexico in 2018.

The Republican Party of New Mexico had a decidedly different take on the governor’s decision:

“This is a sad day for New Mexico. When Gov. Lujan Grisham penned her name to Senate Bill 10, she signed a death warrant. She, along with dozens of New Mexico Democratic lawmakers, approved the order to end the lives of thousands of unborn children. The new law is an immoral, dangerous one—a law that allows late-term abortion and offers no protections for girls, women or health professionals. It permits the murder of

the unborn, endangers the health and lives of women and eliminates any conscience provision to allow a



Pro-abortion New Mexico Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham

doctor to opt out if he or she opposes the procedure on moral, ethical or religious grounds.”

Republicans and a handful of Democrats in the New Mexico House offered amendments, but, as *NRL News Today* reported, all were rejected by the legislature which is

dominated by pro-abortion Democrats.

“Republican Rep. Rebecca Dow spoke about her own unexpected pregnancy at 19 and hearing a heartbeat during an ultrasound,” Doug McKay of the *Albuquerque Journal* reported.

“‘It changed the trajectory of my life,’ Dow said. My daughter ‘has been one of the most wonderful things I’ve done — to choose life for her.’”

There was a great deal of conversation about conscience protections which Democrats brushed off as unneeded or already provided for in law.

But “Republicans said the health care decisions act isn’t adequate protection,” McKay reported.

“We are impacting the physicians who have no desire to be a part of this,” Rep. Ryan Lane, R-Aztec, said.

Rep. Cathrynn Brown, R-Carlsbad, described abortion as “horrific.”

“It’s the issue that will never go away until there’s justice,” she said.

Girl born two days after abortion limit with feet size of penny now flourishing in primary school

By Right to Life UK

A girl born two days after the abortion limit is now flourishing and attending primary school.

Francesca Bradley-Curran was born after 24 weeks and 2 days' gestation. Weighing only 1lb 6oz, her feet were only slightly bigger than a penny. Doctors told her parents, Victoria Bradley and

her to sit still or be quiet."

"When I talk to other premature baby mums their children are all still really small but Francesca wears aged 6-8 clothes and she has perfect vision."

"She battled meningitis, pneumonia, three bouts of sepsis, two collapsed lungs, acute kidney injury and had

baby with the penny-sized feet and she asked me 'why do they think I have penny feet'.

"I explained that we had put a penny next to her feet when she was born and she decided to lay down next to one and I think it made her realise just how small she really was."

"Even I struggle to remember just how tiny she was."

one room of a hospital, doctors could be working to save a baby born alive before 24 weeks whilst in another room a doctor could perform an abortion which would end the life of a baby at the same age. Surely this contradiction needs to end?"

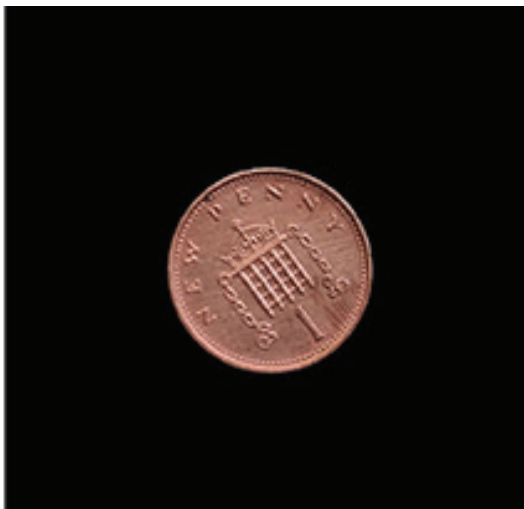
"Independent polling from Savanta ComRes shows that 70% of women in the UK want to see the time limit for abortion reduced to 20 weeks or below. Our current abortion time limit is way out of line with the rest of Europe where the most common abortion time limit is 12 weeks".

"Babies such as Francesca and Sofia are living proof of this unjust law, which would allow babies at a very similar gestation to be aborted if they are inside the womb but provided with proper medical care if outside of the womb".

"This story further adds to the need for Parliament to urgently review our current abortion time limit. We support any change in law that would help lower abortion numbers and save the lives of babies in the womb".

"It's time that our laws were brought into line with public opinion, modern science and the rest of Europe".

Editor's note. This appeared at Right to Life UK [https://righttolife.org.uk/news/girl-born-two-days-after-abortion-limit-with-feet-size-of-penny-now-flourishing-in-primary-school] and is reposted with permission.



Paul Curran, that even if their daughter did survive, she would never be able to walk or talk.

But over halfway through her first year in primary school, four-year-old Francesca has defied all expectations.

'Doctors told us even if she did survive she would never walk or talk, but now we can't get her to sit still or be quiet'

Her mum Victoria said: "'From the minute she opens her eyes she's a constant ball of energy."

"It's crazy to think that the doctors told us even if she did survive she would never walk or talk, but now we can't get

16 blood transfusions and laser eye surgery before she left hospital."

In 2017, Francesca hit headlines after her parents took a photograph of a penny next to her feet, which were the same size as the 20 millimetre coin.

"Every day I look at her and think she is my walking, talking miracle"

Now her daughter is old enough, Victoria has started to show her some videos of when she was a baby.

"She realise[d] that she was very ill and very small," she said.

"She saw another video where someone called her the

Born before the abortion limit

Developments in medical technology mean that more and more prematurely born babies are able to survive. In October 2020 a baby was born in Scotland almost 2 weeks below the abortion limit who went on to survive. Sofia Viktoria Birina weighed only 500g and last month was sent home with her parents.

Right To Life UK spokesperson, Catherine Robinson, said: "The number of babies born just after and shortly before the legal abortion limit in the UK is increasing all the time".

"This story highlights a real contradiction in British law. In

People with Down syndrome are challenging limits and artificially-set boundaries every day

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

March 21st is considered World Down Syndrome Day, a designation for honoring those who have an extra copy of chromosome 21. But stigmas and misinformation still abound.

I heard recently about someone who said he supported the abortion of babies with Down syndrome. The individual reasoned that children with Down syndrome would lead “horrible lives,” and thus, the abortions in his mind were justified for so-called “humanitarian” reasons.

How misguided and misinformed this individual is.

In Pennsylvania, Republican state Senator Scott Martin (Lancaster County), a champion of children with special needs, hopes to pass a resolution officially recognizing World Down Syndrome Day in Pennsylvania.

In his co-sponsorship memo, Sen. Martin provides clear evidence of the tremendous progress made by people with Down syndrome, both in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and throughout the world.

And because of miraculous medical advances, the “median age of people with Down syndrome is now 58,” according



to Brian Skotko. “As recently as 1983, the average lifespan of a person with Down syndrome was 25 years,” the Global Down Syndrome Foundation reports.

As Sen. Martin states, “This shows that when given the opportunities associated with early intervention, therapies,

quality education, and support from families and the community, individuals with Down syndrome can adapt and

thrive.”

Sadly, however, the abortion rate for babies with Down syndrome remains high. Worldwide, it has been estimated that the vast majority of babies who receive a prenatal Down syndrome diagnosis are aborted. That is why legislation such as Pennsylvania’s Chloe’s

Law is so important. The law ensures that pregnant women who receive a Down syndrome prenatal diagnosis receive support and resources. This support can literally mean the difference between life and death.

Meanwhile, people with Down syndrome are challenging limits and artificially-set boundaries every day.

“As a result of changing attitudes, these individuals have gone on to be productive, influential and inspirational members of societies across the world,” Sen. Martin said.

People with Down syndrome are a tremendous blessing to their families, their workplaces, their schools, and their communities. We need to share more of these stories so that, when couples learn that their preborn babies are likely to have Down syndrome, they will not be fearful.

Education and support can wipe out the fear, enabling families to embrace these special children with the love they deserve.

The Atlantic Boosts Assisted-Suicide Doctors, Pushes Euthanasia

By Wesley J. Smith

The media love to boost assisted suicide. They laud people who commit it — witness their swoon over the late Brittany Maynard — and the doctors who are willing to lethally prescribe or give lethal injections.

Now, *The Atlantic* goes there bigly, describing the experiences of two California doctors who assist suicides. But I want to focus on one: Lonny Shavelson, whose excesses and assisted-suicide enthusiasms I have been writing about for years.

Shavelson was a part-time ER doc and photo journalist. Fascinated with assisted suicide, he wrote a journalistic book about the subject called *A Chosen Death*. Decades later, when assisted suicide was legalized in California, he went into business, helping to kill people for \$3,000.

Of course, the media has gone gaga for him. In the *Atlantic* piece, byline Katie Engelhart, the scribe mentions Shavelson's book and the heart-rending situations he reported.

But she leaves the most important story out — Shavelson's witnessing the murder of a disabled man who changed his mind about wanting to die. From *A Chosen Death*:

His good hand flew up to tear off the plastic bag. Sarah's hand caught Gene's at the wrist and held it. His body thrust upwards. She pulled his arm away and lay across Gene's shoulders. Sarah rocked back and forth, pinning

him down, her fingers twisting the bag to seal it tight at his neck as she repeated, "the light, Gene, go toward the light." Gene's body pushed against Sarah's. Then he stopped moving.

Not only did Shavelson not try to stop "Sarah" — a pseudonym for someone described as a



Hemlock Society chapter head — but he never called the police about the killing. Rather, he describes just sitting there watching, wringing his hands.

The guidelines are supposed to protect against abuse. But even though Shavelson does not treat his "patients" — his is strictly a suicide "practice" — and even though he is not board certified in treating illnesses such as cancer or ALS, and even though he barely knows the people who come to him, he colors outside the lines: From "I'm the Doctor Who is Here to Help You Die:":

One man had terminal cancer but said he wanted to die now for financial reasons. He was a Vietnam War vet,

he said, and he couldn't stop thinking about the Agent Orange attacks. He wanted all his savings to go to Vietnamese victims—not to pay his way through some awful American nursing home. Another had ALS and didn't want to lose her mobility. She "hated her disability

and she died early," Shavelson said. "She was still walking."

Sometimes, Shavelson felt like he was refining the eligibility rules as he went. What if, for instance, a 103-year-old wanted to die but didn't have a specific illness or condition? Could you assume that he had just six months left to live? Sure, Shavelson thought, as long as he scored high enough on a "frailty index" test.

Swell.

He also circumvented the self-administration requirement of the law:

Soon, he was delivering the drugs directly into feeding tubes, when patients had

them. He would load the medication into a plastic syringe and then hand the plunger to the patient, who would press down on it to "self-administer" and "ingest" the drugs. Sometimes, if a patient was weak, Shavelson would hold the plunger himself and place the patient's hand on top of his. "If I feel you pushing on my hand," he would say, "we will push together." These were legal deaths. And often lovely deaths. But in a way, the whole thing was ridiculous.

Later, Shavelson started administering the drugs rectally for patients with disturbed intestinal systems.

Engelhart reports on Shavelson getting final consent for an assisted suicide from a cancer patient. See if you can see what is wrong with this picture.

"What are you dying from?" Shavelson asked. Then again, louder.

"I'd like to know myself," Bradshaw said.

"Dad, you have to be serious," Marc said. Bradshaw said nothing for a while and then recalled that something was wrong with his prostate.

"Okay," Shavelson said, smiling, "We have

The face of true pro-abortion fanaticism on display

By Dave Andrusko

Pro-abortionists, particularly the kind that lecture the rest of us mere mortals for being insufficient woke, are not big on irony or introspection or maybe even reading their own musings.

Enter Kate Cohen, described as a “contributing columnist for the *Washington Post*.” Her own description kind of tells you where she might just come down on television being insufficiently monomaniacally pro-abortion.

She is “Writer, editor, parent, atheist, leftie (both kinds), obsessive cook, highly opinionated human. She/her/hers.” Elsewhere we read Cohen is “writing a book about raising my [three] children as atheists.”

Ok. Got it.

So what is the gist of “On TV, abortion is the road less traveled. Life’s not like that”? Other pro-life writers understandably focus on the beginning—which I will quote as well—but there is much, much more to her militant, zealous embrace of abortion:

After the sixth episode of “Atypical,” I stormed into my daughter’s room.

“Please tell me the therapist is not going to have that baby.”

She paused to remember which show she had told me to watch, and then she shrugged sympathetically. “Sorry, Mom.”

Dammit! I was hoping that the young, professional woman, upon learning she was pregnant right after her jerky boyfriend left her, might decide to have an abortion.

Instead, it turns out, she doesn’t even consider it.

I’m so tired of this.

Tired of what?

Over and over again in TV shows and movies, female characters discover they are unintentionally pregnant and then make the choice that most women in that situation don’t make. Or worse: They don’t seem to remember that they even have a choice.

Reading her overwrought and under-thought opinion piece, you’d conclude, from the pro-abortion vantage point at least, that Hollywood is a veritable oasis, overflowing with pro-life storylines. Pro-abortion plot lines are consigned to the desert.

This is utter nonsense as other pro-abortion scribes (to their great joy) tell us.

It’s noticeable, but hardly surprising, that to paint her one-sided portrait of movies and television programs she goes back a decade or more. From the pro-abortion vantage point, many recent movies and television programs matter-of-factly treat abortion (to borrow from Cohen) as “freedom care.”

But here are three additional points made later in her opinion piece that are also worth considering.

They tell us what we knew four paragraphs in. While Cohen grinds her teeth and says it’s (kind of) okay not to abort, abortion is the road usually traveled...and rightly so.

#1. “Any particular choosing-to-have-a-baby

storyline *could* make sense,” she writes. “It’s all of them together that make me crazy.” Of course we would respond that if you look at Cohen’s examples later in her piece (which are more contemporary examples), the reflexive response is not to

tasteless ending are extremely illuminating.

In the penultimate paragraph Cohen is talking about recent productions which “have featured women choosing to end their pregnancies.”

My personal favorite is “Crazy Ex-Girlfriend,”



carry the baby to term but to abort. You could say that this makes **us** crazy.

#2. Abortion, Cohen writes, is “*at least* health care, but it’s not *only* health care. The ability to put a stop to an unwanted pregnancy is part of a kit of tools women have that allow us to determine the course of our own lives. It’s freedom care.” (Her italics.)

“Kit of tools”? “Freedom care”?

I’m guessing that if you were to ask Cohen what if she had used her “kit of tools” to eliminate any or all of her three children,” she’d retreat to the usual babble. It was Cohen’s **choice** to let them live.

Allow them to live, take their lives, six of one, half dozen of the other. Either way it’s “Freedom care.”

And #3. The examples she uses in the beginning—her poor daughter having to listen to her mom’s harangue—and in the

in which we find out what Paula decided to do about the pregnancy that threatened her law school plans when the doorbell rings and her son calls out, “Mom, I’ll get it, since you just had an abortion.”

In the crazy, morally inverted world of abortion fanaticism, the ideal outcome is for the kid you **didn’t** abort to go out of his way to assure his mom that it is absolutely no big deal—or any deal at all—that she just aborted his/her sibling.

It’s the ultimate validation (not, I hasten to add, that Cohen would ever suggest the decision to off an unborn child needs to be validated) when your own (living) kid is so blasé about abortion they offer to open the door so his just-aborted mom can take it easy.

Only a true fanatic would find that comforting.

“Subverted:” The Propaganda that fueled *Roe v. Wade*

By Bonnie Finnerty, Education Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

The following is the fourth installment in our weekly blog on *Subverted: How I Helped the Sexual Revolution to Hijack the Women's Movement* by Sue Ellen Browder.

The longing for truth is etched on the human heart, leading us to search in all kinds of places for it. Yet, often, we are left dissatisfied.

Such was the case with two very different people, a man and a woman, in the early 1970's: a struggling freelance writer and an Supreme Court Justice.

Unknown to one another, they were both exploring the same questions regarding women and equality.

Sue Ellen Browder admits in her memoir *Subverted: How I Helped the Sexual Revolution to Hijack the Women's Movement* that she sought answers in Abraham Maslow's humanistic psychology of “self-as-God” and in Germaine Greer's “fearlessness” as the path to true freedom. Consequently, with disregard to her own moral compass, she threw herself into her career, certain it was there she would find true self-fulfillment.

Around the same time, Justice Harry Blackmun, a Republican, Methodist, and family man, struggled for months to write the majority opinion for *Roe vs. Wade*. His first draft was roundly rejected by liberal colleagues who considered it too weak an argument for abortion. Blackmun vowed to come up with a stronger legal opinion.

His 28 year-old law clerk, known for his excellent writing

skills, would come to his rescue. Browder writes that the clerk was in possession of a powerful tool that could be used to bolster the case.

The book entitled *Abortion* was written by National

It was this particular book that convinced National Organization for Women president Betty Friedan to insert an abortion platform into the women's movement. It would be footnoted in Blackmun's

a blind guide.”

A newly crafted opinion was finalized on August 10, 1972 and in a highly unusual move, Blackmun's law clerk proposed to circulate to the other justices before final oral arguments without being fact-checked. The Blackmun papers which Browder used as a source for her research indicate that the clerk believed this step “might well influence voting.”

Blackmun was accused by pro-abortion historian David Garrow of ceding “far too much of his judicial authority to his clerks,” to a degree that was “indefensible.”

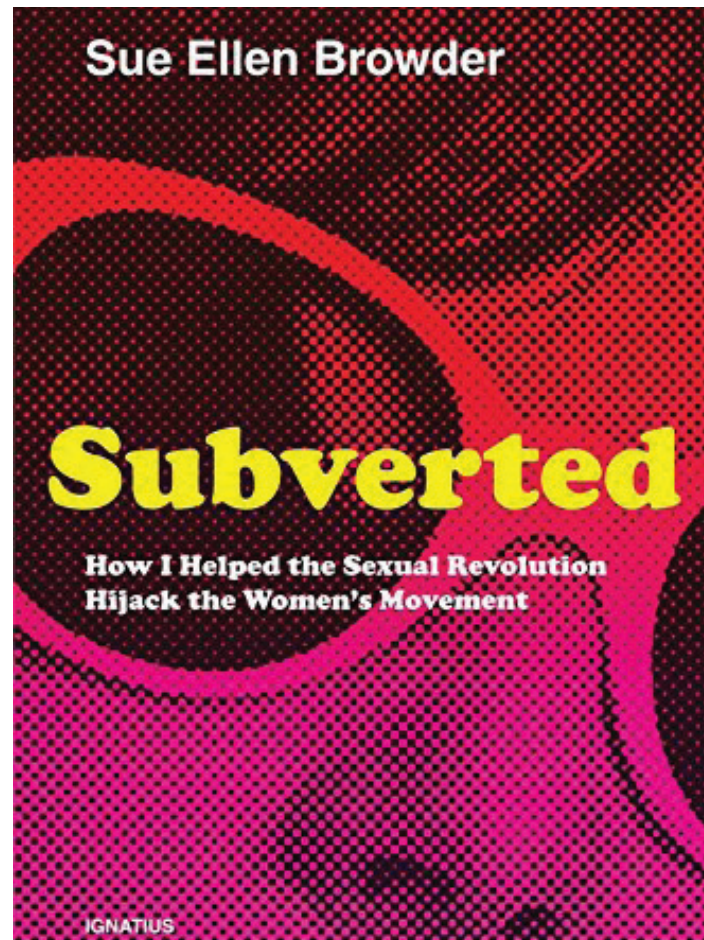
Six other justices joined Blackmun in the final vote on *Roe*. However, the legal opinion itself was widely criticized in the legal world. One law professor and well-known abortion supporter, John Hart Ely, called the opinion “bad,” saying, “it is not constitutional law and gives almost no sense of an obligation to try to be.”

Even Blackmun himself remained uneasy with the decision. In a 1974 statement to the *Washington Post*, he said the *Roe v. Wade* ruling will be regarded “as one of the worst mistakes in the court's history, or one of its great decisions, a turning point.”

We now know, at the cost of more than 62 million lives and counting, the former is true.

Blackmun, like Browder, was searching for answers in places where truth could not be found.

And the consequences for both Browder and for our country would be devastating.



Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws co-founder Larry Lader. It had a far lengthier subtitle: *The first authoritative and documented report on the laws and practices governing abortion in the U.S. and around the world, and how-for the sake of women everywhere-they can and must be reformed.*

majority opinion no less than seven times. The problem, however, was that it was far more propaganda than fact.

Browder writes, “For when Blackmun accepted Larry Lader, a mere magazine writer, as a reliable authority on history, philosophy, and theology, he became a blind man following

The triumphant story of a micropremie born the size of a water bottle

By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

It was one of those days in the Northeast when the day's fresh snowfall prevents travel. I was at home, wrapping up my telecommuting for the day, when I flipped on the television. There, I caught a talk show I would not ordinarily have time to watch.

The segment immediately piqued my interest—the host was interviewing a young boy who had been born at 25 weeks gestation. A mere one pound, nine ounces at birth, he began life the size of a water bottle.

Doctors had predicted the boy would never be able to walk or talk. Yet, here he was, being interviewed on a nationally syndicated talk show. A video even showed him dancing!

No doubt, the boy's start in life had been harrowing. But he had not only survived, he had thrived. And now he was entertaining countless viewers on national television.

This is just one story of survival in a 21st century world where micro-preemies are being saved at ever earlier stages of development. After all, doctors' predictions

sometimes miss the mark and babies surpass expectations. The moral of the story is clear:



human life is precious and needs to be protected, no matter what the odds of successful survival may be.

Aborting this child would have been the triumph of

despair over hope. Abortion brings an unimaginably violent end to a little one's story,

victorious. So victorious, in fact, that he succeeded in raising money to build a playground that other children can enjoy.

None of us is born with a start date and expiration date stamped on our foreheads. The day of our birth is often a mystery—as is the date of our death. There is no predicting what one human being can accomplish—whether his life lasts five days or ninety-five years.

With each abortion, an irreplaceable human being dies, the dream for his or her life vanquished.

How many playgrounds are empty today, because of the epic tragedy of over 62.5 million abortion?

The more we spread the good news about micro-preemies, the greater the chance that a pregnant woman facing a dire prenatal diagnosis will choose life.

When she makes that life-affirming choice, a child lives and a mother escapes the heartache of a life lost to abortion.

leaving a mother and father to grieve a child who has been lost.

The boy being featured on television spent 121 days in the hospital, but he emerged

Breezing by public opposition to taxpayer funded abortion, Democrats exclude Hyde Amendment protections in COVID relief plan reconciliation package.

From page 2

All 49 Republicans voted for the amendment and were joined by three Democrat Senators: Joe Manchin (D-W. Va.), Bob Casey, Jr. (D-Penn.), and Tim Kaine (D-Va.).

Joined as they are at the hip to the Abortion Industry, Congressional Democrats paid no attention to public opinion which has long opposed paying for elective abortions. As *NRL News Today* wrote back in January, a Knights of Columbus/Marist poll found that out of 1,173 respondents, overall 58% “oppose using tax dollars to

pay for a woman's abortion.” Sixty-five percent of Independents opposed public funding as did even 31% of Democrats.

An even larger majority of respondents—77%—oppose “using tax dollars to support abortion in other countries,” including more than six in ten (64%) of those who identify as pro-choice.

The Congressional Democrats' actions were 100% expected. But that doesn't mitigate the brutal truth that they were 100% wrong.

Baby born two weeks below abortion limit goes home after 4 months in hospital

By Right to Life UK

A baby born at 22 weeks weighing only 500g has just gone home after four months in hospital.

Baby Sofia Viktoria Birina was due on the 1st February 2021, but instead was born in University Wishaw Hospital on the 2nd October 2020.

Her mother, Egija, said: “Everything was fine at the 20

weeks and four days. Her mother continued: “I was at the hospital all the time. Some days as long as 16 hours, and my husband would come after work. I just didn’t want to leave her, especially on the

many really tough days when we didn’t think Sofia would make it”.

“She was hooked up to lots of machines and she was ventilated for several weeks to help her breathe. First time they tried to get her to breathe on her own, she only lasted 20 minutes then her heart rate dropped and I felt like I was losing her – but the medical and nursing staff were great”.

Since then, Sofia has been slowly weaned off her ventilator and has gained sufficient weight and strength to go home.

“She’s now four months old and I look at her and think she could still be in my tummy because of how small she is, even though she is now four times her birth weight”.

Sofia was born at just 22 weeks and 4 days and is believed to be one of Scotland’s youngest surviving babies.



When baby Sofia was born at 22-weeks she weighed just 500g (1.1lb) and could fit in her mother’s hand – Image credit: NHS LANARKSHIRE

week scan. Then just over a week later, I felt pain so I went into hospital and was told that I was already dilated and had to go into labour”.

“After 10 days’ bed rest our beloved daughter Sofia made an appearance”.

“Sofia was literally the size of a hand, so fragile and small and her skin was see-through. I had to wait a week to hold her for the first time because she was so fragile. Once I was able to hold her, they couldn’t get her out of my hands”.

During her time in hospital, Sofia has had to overcome a heart defect, stage one brain bleeds, an eye disease, retinopathy of prematurity and multiple infections.

She had seven blood transfusions and, being so premature, respiratory distress symptom as her lungs weren’t fully developed.

Baby born two weeks below abortion limit goes home after 4 months in hospital 3

Late term abortion in Scotland

The abortion law in Scotland (and England and Wales) permits abortion up to the 24th week of gestation in most cases, and up to birth under certain conditions, such as if the child is disabled.

The latest abortion statistics in Scotland show that in 2019, 129 abortions were performed at 18 weeks’ gestation or over and in England and Wales, 3,323 abortions were performed at 20 weeks’ gestation or over.

As the inspiring case of baby Sofia shows, babies are able to survive outside the womb from as early as 22 weeks’ gestation.

and nurses are ensuring that premature babies are able to survive earlier and earlier”.

“Sofia’s very existence contrasts sharply with our abortion laws. At 22 weeks, Sofia would be offered the same protections under law as any other British citizen. Whilst she was still in the womb however, and whilst there are other babies in the womb at the same gestation and older, it would be perfectly lawful to have had an abortion. Surely this contradiction needs to end”.

“Abortion at any stage of pregnancy is wrong, but the transparent contradiction at the heart of our abortion laws in terms of the basic rights we rightly grant to human life outside the womb but wrongly fail to provide to human life in



Sofia’s parents are able to finally take baby Sofia home after four months in hospital – Image credit: NHS LANARKSHIRE

Once she was born, she was entitled to full protection under the law, but at 22 weeks in the womb, she could still be aborted.

Baby born two weeks below abortion limit goes home after 4 months in hospital 4

Right To Life UK spokesperson, Catherine Robinson, said: “Advances in medical technology and the amazing work of our doctors

the womb, is on clear display in these cases of premature births”.

Editor’s note. This appeared at Right to Life UK [https://righttolife.org.uk/news/baby-born-two-weeks-below-abortion-limit-goes-home-after-4-months-in-hospital] and is reposted with permission.

The 2022 Senate Battleground Map: The Pro-Life Path Back to the Majority

From page 5

who also ran in the state's 2020 primary but did not make the runoff, has also reportedly been considering a bid. Pro-life former Senator David Perdue and pro-life Governor Brian Kemp have ruled out running for the seat. Georgia was the closest swing state in the country in the 2020 election with President Biden winning by about 12,000 votes or 0.24%. This will be a hard-fought race but one that the pro-life movement can win.

Florida

Pro-life Sen. Marco Rubio (R) is up for re-election in 2022. Sen. Rubio has held a 100% rating with National Right to Life throughout both of his terms in the Senate. While Republicans outperformed expectations in the 2018 midterms and in the 2020

presidential election, Florida remains a key battleground.

The Democratic field is large and growing with no clear frontrunner for the nomination.



Wisconsin

Pro-life Sen. Ron Johnson (R) is currently the Republican incumbent most in danger heading into 2022. Last year,

then candidate Biden put Wisconsin back into the blue column following Trump's narrow win in 2016. Despite the blue hue of the state,

Sen. Johnson has defied expectations and won two terms. He is currently the only statewide elected Republican in Wisconsin.

Sen. Johnson has held a 100% rating with National Right to Life throughout both of his terms. Holding the seat will be imperative for regaining the Senate majority.

Currently running on the Democratic side are Alex Lasry, the senior vice president of the Milwaukee Bucks, and Outagamie County Executive Tom Nelson. Several others are considering bids including Congressman Ron Kind and Wisconsin State Treasurer Sarah Godlewski. All are pro-abortion.

There are a handful of other states that could come into battleground territory including Nevada and New Hampshire, where pro-abortion Democrat Senators Jacky Rosen and Maggie Hassan are facing re-election. President Biden narrowly carried both states.

The Atlantic Boosts Assisted-Suicide Doctors, Pushes Euthanasia

From page 31

a bit of paperwork to do." Bradshaw groaned. "As you can imagine, the state of California doesn't let you die easily."

Shavelson held up a document. "This little paper here is called the 'Final Attestation.' The state of California wants you to sign, to say that you are taking a medication that will make you die." Bradshaw closed his eyes.

"Dad," Marc urged. "Dad, you have to stay awake for a few minutes ... Daddy, you need to sign, right?"

Dad," Cheryl said. "Sign your name."

Bradshaw opened his eyes and signed.

Did the man even know what he was signing? How could Shavelson give him a poisonous brew when Bradshaw appeared to be following his children's orders?

The entire piece is actually a criticism of assisted-suicide guidelines and a pitch for lethal-injection euthanasia:

In other countries, I knew, none of this would be happening: the juice, the labored sips, the shaking hands. But in America, doctors were in a

special bind. In almost every place where assisted death is legal, such as Canada and Belgium, euthanasia is also legal. This means that patients can choose between two kinds of dying: a drinkable solution or an injection, delivered by doctors. Patients almost always choose the injection. They want their doctors to take care of things. Also, the shots are straightforward and quick and always work. No stress about mixing the solution. No chance of vomiting or waking

up, which can happen, albeit very rarely, with the liquid drinks.

All in all, a splendid dark example of how the media is continually pushing euthanasia and assisted suicide. No opponents' voices allowed and no doubts about the agenda entertained.

The article says Shavelson is quitting his suicide practice. Good. Go back to taking photographs, death doctor!

Editor's note. Wesley's columns appear at National Review Online and are reposted with his permission.

HHS Secretary nominee Xavier Becerra evades explaining why he wouldn't vote to ban gruesome partial-birth abortions

By Dave Andrusko

You didn't need a crystal ball to anticipate that President Biden's HHS nominee Xavier Becerra, a man with a long track record of pro-abortion advocacy in Congress and afterward and a history of persecuting pregnancy help centers, would dance around his opposition to banning the hideous partial-birth abortion technique.

On March 3, the Senate Finance Committee moved to advance his nomination. This after very revealing testimony before the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. News accounts focused on his back and forth with Sen. Mitt Romney and Sen. Mike Braun.

To quote from a story that appeared at *National Review Online*

While “mainstream Republicans and mainstream Democrats disagree” on abortion, “most people agree that partial-birth abortion is awful,” Romney said at Becerra's confirmation hearing. “You voted against a ban on partial-birth abortion. Why?”

Becerra responded, “When I come to these issues, I understand

that we may not always agree on where to go, but I think we can find some common ground on these issues.”

“I think we can reach common ground on



Xavier Becerra

many issues,” Romney said, “but on partial-birth abortion it sounds like we're not going to reach common ground there.”

For those who may be unfamiliar with the trench

war fight to ban partial-birth abortion, it was a battle led by National Right to Life that went on for years before President George W. Bush finally signed the bill into law and the Supreme Court upheld the law in 2007 in *Gonzales v. Carhart*.

You wouldn't think anyone could think such abortions should be legal. A baby is mostly delivered, surgical scissors are jammed into the back of the baby's skull, and her brains are vacuumed out like so much soot.

But Xavier Becerra did, voting against the ban in 2000 as a Member of the House.

In its letter of opposition sent to the Senate, NRLC wrote

Not only does Mr. Becerra lack meaningful healthcare experience, but he would also use this office to impose his ideology on matters related to abortion and other right to life concerns, among others. NRLC urges you to vote against advancing or approving the nomination of Xavier Becerra as Secretary of HHS and reserves the right to include any appropriate roll call(s)

on the nomination in our scorecard of key right-to-life roll calls of the 117th Congress.

Faced with an ongoing pandemic and looming public health challenges, Mr. Becerra would bring no public health experience. Prior to becoming California's attorney general in 2017, he served 12 terms in the House of Representatives. ...

While Mr. Becerra lacks public-health experience, he does have a proven track record of being hostile on pro-life issues. As California's attorney general, Mr. Becerra repeatedly and aggressively attacked protective pro-life laws and organizations with rancor. While a congressman, he had a 100% pro-abortion voting record.

Mr. Becerra's support of abortion on demand for any reason and at any time, and his campaign against pregnancy help centers, is extensive and well documented.

Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice....

From page 2

Dionne's snarky post is the umpteenth iteration of pro-abortionists rebelling against what is a genuine realignment of the two major parties that began with "Reagan Democrats" and which picked up enormous momentum in the 2020 elections.

That included the truth that "Across the board, Democrats performed worse among Latino voters in 2020 than in 2016," as Frances Lee wrote last month in the *Washington Post*.

We've written about this on numerous occasions but even though President Trump lost by the narrowest of margins, Republicans did extraordinarily well in the House (nearly taking control back) and much better than expected in the Senate.

Lee put it bluntly: "Biden had no coattails at all."

Even the *New York Times*--an adjunct to the Democrat Party and to Planned Parenthood--disagrees with Dionne factually--"Republicans Won Blue-Collar Votes"--but agrees (naturally) that they are throwing that advantage away.

Trip Gabriel opined that "further results" had revealed "that Mr. Trump had carried 40 percent of union household." But going forward Republicans had no chance because their only appeal is to "resentment."

Two points.

#1. On a daily basis, Democrats libel Republicans with every vicious charge they can come up with. Why? For the exact reason Dionne and Gabriel attribute to

practical work of ending the scourge," as if, like Athena from the head of Zeus, the progress that we have made against the pandemic sprung fully developed from Biden's head

Having served their appointed task—providing cover—they write as if they actually thought (or wanted us to believe they thought) that the Biden administration will listen



Republicans. They have no agenda that appeals either to Middle American or to working class women and men. So they hope to prevail by keeping the public's eye on the Republican caricature they have conjured up, dutifully amplified by the major media.

Dionne has the chutzpah to insist that President Biden has "tried to shift the conversation about the pandemic away from cultural conflict and toward the

the day he was inaugurated.

#2. Neither Dionne nor Gabriel mentions pro-lifers per se. But it is interesting, is it not, that over the weekend, some pro-life Evangelicals who'd persuaded themselves Biden wouldn't be so bad, suddenly discovered that Biden is supporting legislation that excludes the Hyde Amendment protections against the use of taxpayer money to pay for abortion.

to them. Their naiveté would be almost charming if it hadn't had the deadly effect of helping defeat a pro-life President and ushering in the Biden/Harris administration.

But you are far wiser than that. You know what we face—and you knew that way back during the campaign.

Likewise, you know what we need to do: resist intelligently with honor and wisdom.

And we will.

Biden administration fills vacancies with abundance of former abortion industry employees

From page 16

“a bunch of f—ers,” has been named Biden’s White House deputy chief of staff. On her birthday, she publicly declared that she would be donating to Planned Parenthood, NARAL, and the pro-abortion group EMILY’s List.

Vivek Murthy, Surgeon General

Vivek Murthy, the 19th U.S. Surgeon General, has been nominated as Biden’s pick for the 21st U.S. Surgeon General. According to Planned Parenthood, “He has proudly declared that access to abortion and birth control are essential components of health care.” The image below shows Murthy attending a national Planned Parenthood conference with former PP president Leana Wen.

NOMINEES/APPOINTEES CONNECTED TO NARAL PRO-CHOICE AMERICA

Josh Orton, Department of Labor

Josh Orton has joined the Biden Department of Labor as a Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary. Orton was previously a senior advisor to Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and a former Senior Legal Advisor to NARAL Pro-Choice America.

Dawn Johnsen, DOJ Senior Counsel

Indiana University law professor Dawn Johnsen was recently sworn in as a senior counselor in the Department of Justice’s Office of Legal Counsel. According to an online bio, Johnson was once the legal director for the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (now

known as NARAL Pro-Choice America) as well as a staff counsel fellow at the American Civil Liberties Union Reproductive Freedom Project. In addition, Johnson has served on the board of Planned Parenthood’s former “special affiliate” and research arm, the Guttmacher Institute.

A 2009 TownHall op-ed quotes Johnson as claiming that abortion restrictions “reduce pregnant women to no more than fetal containers.” She also allegedly claimed, “There is no ‘father’ and no ‘child’ – just a fetus.”

Ronald Klain, White House Chief of Staff

Just days after Ilyse Hogue, then-president of NARAL Pro-Choice America, tweeted her recommendation for White House Chief of Staff, Joe Biden named Ronald Klain for the position. Live Action News previously documented Klain’s bizarre allegiance to NARAL and abortion. In a March of 2019 tweet from NARAL’s president thanking Klain for “being a vocal leader on these issues” of abortion rights, Klain shockingly referred to himself as “[j]ust a soldier in your army @Ilyseh.” In a tweet a year prior to this, Klain referred to Hogue as a “great leader.”

Symone Sanders, Senior Campaign Advisor

Biden’s former Senior Campaign Advisor, Symone Sanders, has a cozy relationship with the abortion industry. In 2018, she joined a NARAL Rise up for Roe tour where she called abortion health care. She has since been named Senior Advisor and Chief Spokesperson for Vice President Kamala Harris.

Neera Tanden, nominee director of the Office of Management and Budget

President Joe Biden has nominated Neera Tanden, former president of the Center for American Progress, as director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). In 2018, Tanden tweeted, “Proud to stand with my sisters at @NARAL.” She has also expressed that she is “proud to stand with Planned Parenthood...” In 2017, she tweeted that she had “led multiple protests with MoveOn, SEIU, [and] Planned Parenthood...” According to the National Catholic Register, during Tanden’s confirmation, she “reaffirmed President Biden’s opposition to the Hyde Amendment... When asked by Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., if she would push to preserve the Hyde Amendment in future presidential budget requests, Tanden would not say.”

OTHER NOMINEES/ APPOINTEES EXPRESSING STRONG ALLEGIANCE TO ABORTION

Samantha Power, head of USAID

Samantha Power has been nominated to head the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). According to the National Catholic Register, “Samantha Power... has celebrated the expansion of abortion access both domestically and in places like her native Ireland. As head of USAID, the federal agency responsible for distributing aid internationally and its \$20 billion budget, Power will likely play a role in directing funds to organizations

facilitating abortions abroad, especially given Biden’s pledge to do away with the Mexico City Policy.”

Pete Buttigieg, Secretary of Transportation

Pete Buttigieg, who endorsed abortions at any stage of pregnancy, has been named Biden’s Secretary of Transportation. As South Bend Mayor, Buttigieg protected the then-unlicensed abortion business Whole Woman’s Health of South Bend and simultaneously opposed the opening of a pro-life pregnancy resource center near the abortion facility.

Allie Panther, White House Liaison

Allie Panther, a former Biden for President Director of Scheduling has been named to Biden’s Department of Transportation (DOT) team. According to her LinkedIn page, she formerly served as an events manager for the pro-abortion EMILY’s List.

COVID-19 Advisory Board

In November of 2020, the Biden team announced members of his COVID-19 Advisory Board, which included Ezekiel Emanuel, a former Obama advisor who promotes the rationing of health care. David Kessler – instrumental in bringing the abortion pill (Mifepristone) to the U.S. market through his leadership at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) — was chosen to co-chair the Biden COVID-19 advisory board.

Editor’s note. This appeared at Live Action News and is reposted with permission.

Five takeaways from Planned Parenthood's 2019-2020 Annual Report

From page 12

Parenthood that we can't afford to be incremental, and that all of us have to show up to this work as our authentic selves. The mission demands us to act boldly. Planned Parenthood is 104 years old, and we're committed to addressing structural racism, both historic and current, in the federation. We're driven by shared aspirations, not held back by fear and anxiety.

For those who haven't kept track, these last few years, this past one most of all, have seen PPFA rocked by scandal after scandal. PPFA, for example, finally had to admit to its founder infatuation with eugenics. PPFA's largest affiliate—Planned Parenthood of New York—decided to remove Margaret Sanger's name from its Manhattan health clinic.

But there is more, as the *New York Times'* Nikita Stewart wrote when she broke the story

The New York affiliate's effort to disavow Ms. Sanger comes as it wrestles with internal turmoil, including the recent ouster of its executive director, Laura McQuade, in part because of complaints that she had mistreated Black employees.

Merle McGee [the New York chapter's chief equity and engagement officer] said there was no connection between Ms. McQuade's

became public recently. If I were to quote from one of the "Open Letters," you'd see how much bitterness and resentment there is toward leadership. And #5. Political muscle is the name of the game for Planned

If they followed through with plans announced earlier, much of this spending was concentrated in states such as Pennsylvania, Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, Wisconsin, and North Carolina where there was a close presidential contest or a key Senate race.

Planned Parenthood's happiness at the election of pro-abortion President Joe Biden and pro-abortion Vice President Kamala Harris is palpable. While not mentioning the new pro-abortion Democrat administration by name, the opening note from leadership gloats that "Now, champions for sexual and reproductive health are in the White House. We're entering a new era where we can not only undo the damage of the last four years, but move policy, and collective imagination, forward."

Our task is to minimize the death-dealing damage Planned Parenthood is eager to administer. An essential part of that capacity to combat and roll back is that we know thoroughly an organization that performs one abortion every 89 seconds.



departure and the decision to remove Ms. Sanger's name. The move, she said, arose out of a three-year effort to tackle racism internally and to improve relationships with groups led by Black women who have been wary of Planned Parenthood's origins.

This acknowledgement in the opening message is an attempt to make lemonade out of lemons. PPFA has had this ongoing fight for years; it only

Planned Parenthood. They brag incessantly about how much money they will—or have—spend to elect sympathetic candidates. To quote Dr. O'Bannon one more time

Planned Parenthood does not address it directly in this report, but the group's political arm was quite active in the past election. According to the election spending watchdog group, [OpenSecrets.org](https://www.opensecrets.org), we have a record that they spent at least \$27.4 million.

Teens are loving the pro-life resources in our Teen Impact Boxes! Here's what they have to say!

By Wisconsin Right to Life

“These [Teen Impact Boxes] push us to make a difference in our community, and truly see the impact one person can make. Sometimes, as teenagers, we can feel so insignificant. Like our opinions don't matter and our voices aren't being heard. These boxes empower us to be bold and speak the truth, no matter our age.” – Talia

Meet Talia and Desiree. While they come from different cities, schools, and backgrounds, they have one thing in common – they are passionate about the right to life.

These young ladies signed up for our Teen Impact Boxes, a free, bi-monthly subscription box full of pro-life resources and activities, aimed at high school students who want to make a difference in their communities.

“The Teen Impact Boxes are more than just a few flyers thrown into a box, taped up and shipped off,” says Desiree. “They really are a personal box to help you on your journey to become an amazing pro-life advocate. In my experience they have been filled with fun, delicious snacks, and amazing content all at the same time. From Oreos (or other treats) to supplies to spread the kindness. The best part? Each month if you read the information, watch the videos, and complete activities you can earn points to use in the Teen Impact shop.”

In February, we sent out 95 Teen Impact Boxes, free of charge, to teens here in Wisconsin and around the country. What started as a pandemic-friendly alternative to our Summer Life Camp has already reached double the

number of teens, and continues to provide necessary pro-life training year-round.

Six times a year, our Chapter Growth & Development team establishes a theme and contents for a new Teen Impact



Box. Key components of each box include:

- A video from a featured speaker – either well-known pro-lifers or WRTL staff
- A book on the topic of the month
- Fact sheets or other handouts related to the topic
- An ice-breaker game that can be used at a Teens for Life meeting
- An outline for an activity that their local Teens for Life group can do
- A craft
- Snacks!
- Points for completing each activity in the box, which can be redeemed for WRTL swag and event discounts
- A link to a live Zoom with WRTL staff introducing the theme for the month and giving teens a chance to connect with each other
- ...and more!

Talia says, “I love how education-focused the impact boxes are! As a teenager, I feel that our generation lacks knowledge on the topic of abortion. So many of us are misinformed, or simply don't

coloring, and I love getting new colored pencils.” – Hailey

“I appreciate the Teen Impact Boxes because they give more information about the pro-life movement that I didn't know, and they come with fun games and activities. I look forward to getting them!” – Beth

Teenagers and young adults are truly on the front lines of the abortion crisis. We must continue to empower them to stand up for life in their schools, churches, and workplaces. Wisconsin Right to Life strives to reach teens where they are, providing them with the tools they need to combat the culture of death right in their own circles. The future of the pro-life movement, and our ability to turn the tide against human rights violations like abortion and euthanasia, is in their hands, and we must ensure they are prepared to lovingly and courageously stand for life.

Desiree finished by saying, “Personally the Teen Impact boxes have helped me grow my knowledge. They have inspired me to want to gather other teens I know who are pro-life and get them active. These boxes are worth the hype, and I'm excited each month to get my box. I am hoping to rack up my points to either get a free trip to L!fe Camp (another amazing teen event) or the March for Life. If you are considering signing up to get a box, you WILL NOT REGRET IT!”

have the resources to discover for ourselves the truth about abortion. The boxes provide a hands-on learning experience, and I often find myself telling all my siblings and friends about what I learned each month!”

Some of our other Teen Impact Box recipients also shared their thoughts with us:

“My favorite box was definitely the Christmas one, I thought everything was super fun and unique! As far as materials go, I really enjoyed the first few books we got! I really loved the books because I could give them to my less interested friends and discuss it with them!” – Rose

“Yes! I have loved the boxes! I am looking forward to the writing contest and Teen Impact Live.” – Alexander

“My favorite box was probably the Christmas one, I really liked how different it was compared to all the other boxes. My favorite kind of materials are the books. I love reading, and I love getting new books! My favorite activity that I've gotten from the boxes is the coloring book. I love