

August 10, 2021

(202) 626-8820

RE: Amendments to S. Con. Res. 14, the Senate Budget Resolution

Dear Senator:

Today, the Senate is voting on S. Con. Res. 14, the Senate Budget Resolution. Numerous amendments are anticipated, including several related to abortion.

The National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) urges you to vote in favor of amendments advancing pro-life priorities and intends to include any roll call that occurs on such amendments in our scorecard of key roll calls of the 117th Congress.

Taxpayer Funding of Abortion:

Sen. Lankford has offered an amendment (no. 3442) related to prohibiting taxpayer funding for abortion, applying the principles of the Hyde Amendment. National Right to Life believes that the Hyde Amendment has proven itself to be the greatest domestic abortion-reduction measure ever enacted by Congress. Additionally, a strong majority of Americans have consistently opposed taxpayer funding for abortion. A 2020 poll shows that 64.6% oppose tax funding of abortion, including 49% of Democrats and 69% of Independents.

The amendment also relates to conscience rights, applying the principles of the Weldon Amendment. The Weldon Amendment provides conscience protection for health care entities by preventing funding recipients from discriminating against health care providers because they refuse to provide, pay for, or refer for abortion.

The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act:

Sen. Kennedy is expected to offer an amendment related to the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, which continues to be one of the right-to-life movement's top congressional priorities. The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act would generally extend legal protection to unborn humans beginning at 20 weeks, based on scientific findings that by that point (and perhaps even earlier) the unborn child has the capacity to experience great pain during an abortion.

Protecting Individuals with Down Syndrome Act:

Sen. Inhofe has offered an amendment (no. 3331) which relates to a federal ban on the performance of abortions based on a pre-natal diagnosis of Down syndrome. An unborn child deserves the same protections as any other American who is protected by the Americans with

Disabilities Act. Every person, regardless of ability or whether she is born or unborn, should be accepted in life and protected by law.

NRLC urges you to support the pro-life amendments above and intends to include any roll calls that occur on such amendments in our scorecard of key roll calls of the 117th Congress.

There may also be other amendments aimed at rolling back pro-life protections for unborn children. NRLC urges you to oppose such amendments and reserves the right to include any roll call that occurs on such amendments in our scorecard of key roll calls of the 117th Congress.

Should you have any questions, please contact us via e-mail at jpopik@nrlc.org. Thank you for your consideration of NRLC's position on these important abortion-related amendments.

Sincerely,



Carol Tobias
President



David N. O'Steen, Ph.D.
Executive Director



Jennifer Popik, J.D.
Legislative Director