



Saving Baby Charlie Gard's Life Draws World Wide Support Including the Vatican and President Trump



The sad saga continues, because a British hospital and court want to force removal of medical life support for little Charlie Gard against his parents' opposition.

His parents have raised 1.4 million dollars to pay for experimental treatment that has proved successful in some cases.

Several hospitals around the world including ones in the Vatican and the U.S. have offered to take Charlie and provide treatment and life support, but the British hospital and courts are still refusing to let Charlie leave.

Charlie Gard is an 11 month old baby suffering from a rare disease known as RRM2B mitochondrial depletion syndrome. Charlie entered Great Ormond Street Hospital in London last October and was diagnosed as having a form of mitochondrial disease that causes progressive muscle weakness and brain damage. Some reports indicate that experimental treatment helped 18 people in the United States who received an oral medication of naturally occurring compounds to remedy this rare condition.

In spite of repeated appeals by Charlie's parents, Connie Yates and Chris Gard, the hospital and courts refused to release Charlie to another hospital willing to try using experimental treatments.

Media attention intensified after Charlie's parents raised more than 1.4 million dollars and a children's hospital connected to the Vatican offered to treat Charlie. Several petitions to save Charlie have been circulated and one already contains over 500,000 signatures.

At almost the 11th hour, the British Court has agreed to consider new evidence from a US Doctor who is a specialist in mitochondrial diseases. Dr. Michio Hirano, a neurologist from Columbia University Medical Center, will evaluate Charlie on July 17-18. The court also has relented and will allow Charlie to remain on his ventilator until at least July 25.



Pope Francis

Asked that Charlie's parents be allowed to "accompany and treat their child until the end."

Pope Francis Tweeted
2:32 PM - 30 Jun 2017

"To defend human life, above all when it is wounded by illness, is a duty of love that God entrusts to all."



President Donald Trump Tweets Support for Charlie Gard

10:00 AM - 3 Jul 2017

"If we can help little Charlie Gard, as per our friends in the U.K. and the Pope, we would be delighted to do so."

News Flash

Congress just gave Charlie and his parents permanent legal US residency so Charlie can receive medical treatment, if the British Hospital and Courts will let him be transferred.

Maryland Rep. Dr. Andy Harris's Amendment to Repeal Doctor Assisted Suicide in the District of Columbia Passes House Committee



Rep. Dr. Andy Harris

Washington, DC - Late Thursday evening, July 13, during the committee markup of the Commerce, Justice and Science and Financial Services appropriations bill, Rep. Andy Harris (R-MD), a medical doctor, proposed an amendment that would repeal DC's dangerous assisted suicide law.

The amendment was adopted by a vote of 28-24 and will now become part of the larger appropriations package.

The timing on this amendment was particularly crucial because the law has not yet been fully implemented. Although the so-called Death with Dignity Act became law in DC on February 18, 2017, it is not set to take effect until October 1.

According to a May 23, 2017 article in the Washington Post titled, "D.C. Assisted Suicide Law Could Be Blocked Under Trump's Budget," there is already an effort underway now, despite the October 1 start date, to get guidelines in place for physicians.

Harris, served in the Maryland Senate from 1998 to 2010 and is now in his third term in Congress representing Maryland's first congressional district.

News Flash

In an attempt to make Physician Assisted Suicide legal in the District before Congressional action could countermand the DC law, the District announced on July 17th that the suicide law would become effective immediately. Congress has the ability to stop suicide in DC if it passes the amendment introduced by Rep. Dr. Andy Harris (R-MD).

12 - Ounce Baby Born 4 Months Premature Goes Home



Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. — Emily Rose Hollins born four months premature went home for the first time after five months in the hospital.

Emily is one of the smallest babies ever to be born at Integris Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma weighing just 12 ounces.

Emily's mother Melanie 42 struggled through a high risk pregnancy having just been diagnosed with stage four kidney failure and was waiting for a kidney transplant.

God bless Emily and Melanie and their family.

Planned Parenthood and the ACLU Are At It Again By Filing Suit to Block 72 Hour Waiting Period In Iowa

July 17, Planned Parenthood of the Heartland and the American Civil Liberties Union asked a judge to block an Iowa law, claiming it could increase the costs of an abortion in Iowa and hurt women, the Des Moines Register reports.

The Iowa law requires that a woman be offered the chance to see an ultrasound of her unborn baby and receive information about her baby's development, abortion risks and alternatives before having an abortion. It also requires that women wait 72 hours prior to going through with the abortion.

Attorneys for the pro-abortion groups argued that the law puts an undue burden on women by requiring that they wait three days before having the abortion, according to the

report.

Their attorneys also told the judge that the new law will essentially require women to make at least two trips to a Planned Parenthood clinic or other provider. Though the law only requires a three-day waiting period, a lack of resources and scheduling concerns mean that women could end up waiting a week or more for the procedure their attorneys claimed.

They also claimed that the extra waiting period could be particularly harmful to women who want to keep their abortion private from a romantic partner...

Lifenews July 17, 2017

Suggested Bulletin Inserts

July 2 – As we celebrate our founding document, the Declaration of Independence, that states that all have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, it is worthwhile to note that Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch in his book, “The Future of Assisted Suicide and Euthanasia,” defends the not always fashionable idea that, “all human lives are valuable,” writing that, “The intentional taking of human life by private persons is always wrong.” Sarasota Herald Tribune, 1/3/17

July 9 - Commenting on pro-abortion groups’ plan for a January march on Washington to promote the “right of abortion,” one writer observed, “How ironic that abortion can be considered a “human right” when it denies humanity to the least and most innocent of its own citizens who do not have the opportunity to march for their lives or anyone else’s lives?” Life News, 12/9/16

July 16 – In a radical extension of California’s Assisted Suicide Law, a regulation has been enacted giving the institutionalized mentally ill the right to die if they are diagnosed with a terminal condition. The regulation, enacted without public debate or legislative approval, puts the state in the business of directly causing the deaths of mentally ill patients under court-ordered custodial care. It goes beyond merely legalizing assisted suicide; it elevates euthanasia access for the institutionalized mentally ill into a court-enforceable right. Wesley Smith in NRL News Today, 11/14/16

July 23 - “Roe v Wade is a radical decision and a legally indefensible one. But what really makes Roe unbearably wrong is its consequences. The result of Roe and Doe (companion case to Roe) has been the legally authorized killing of nearly sixty million Americans since 1973. Roe v Wade authorized unrestricted private violence against human life on an almost unimaginable scale, and did so, falsely, in the name of the Constitution.” Law Professor Michael *Stokes Paulsen in Public Discourse*

July 30 - Wesley Smith, an expert on euthanasia, states, “I am against laws authorizing assisted suicide in any form for any reason, at any time.... This is a public policy issue, not-by definition-an individual decision making to end one’s life. Rather it is about the state authorizing a joint enterprise to make someone dead.” NRL News Today, 12/8/16

August 6 - Commenting on the undercover videos of Planned Parenthood employees’ discussing the sale of fetal parts, Jeanne Monahan-Mancini, president of March for Life, stated:

“The thing with abortion is, it’s very much in the dark. It’s a very violent kind of thing. The great gift (of the Planned Parenthood undercover videos) is bringing into light what happens behind closed doors. It was just so clear that there was a lack of respect for these little babies. They were objects, objects for material gain.” Florida Catholic 2/2016

August 13 –In vitro fertilization deserves a closer look. “Life is created in a lab as a commodity, a product. The faulty premise of in vitro fertilization is that ‘I have a right to have

a baby,’” explains noted bioethicist, Fr. Tad Pacholczyk. During the course of in vitro fertilization, many eggs become fertilized but only some are implanted. Of those, some may be selectively aborted to avoid a multiple pregnancy. And fertilized eggs not implanted...are frozen in a “frozen orphanage” as an “assembly line for the production of humans.” Florida Catholic 10/28-11/1

August 20 -“I have met many a woman who thought a pregnancy was the worst thing to ever happen to them. This unborn child was an embarrassment to their parents and/or an unacceptable burden to boyfriends. They wondered how they could get through the coming difficult times. But they soon came to realize that this baby was truly a blessing and they now can’t believe they had ever considered abortion.” Carol Tobias, president of NRLC, in NRL News Today, 12/14/16

August 27 – Modern technology has opened many windows into the womb—from ultrasound imaging to in utero fetal surgery. Now any pregnant woman can download an iPhone app and see for herself how much humanity is in a so-called “clump of cells.” At 14 weeks unborn babies begin moving in a purposeful manner and simple facial gestures like squinting and grimacing are visible. At 18 weeks gestation, babies begin yawning and hiccupping. The abortion industry’s claim that an unborn child is a blob of tissue is refuted right before the mother’s eyes, NRL News Today, 4/3/17

September 3 - New York City often is referred to as the late-term abortion capital of the U.S. In 2013 (the latest report from the CDC available) there were 1,752 late-term abortions on unborn babies at least 21 weeks – or about one every five hours, on average. The states of New Jersey and Georgia together reported 1,410 late term abortions that year despite the fact that both New Jersey and Georgia had larger populations in 2013 than New York City. Life News, 11/30/16

September 11 - Columnist George Will, the father of a Down Syndrome son, notes that these children that were once called Mongoloids are now categorized as “special needs” people. He observes, “What they most need is nothing special. It is for people to understand their aptitudes, and to therefore quit killing them in utero.” Scranton Times-Tribune, 12/5/1

September 18 -Pope Francis noted that some supporters of euthanasia tend to “hide behind alleged compassion to justify killing a patient.” True compassion, he notes, does not consider a patient’s death a “good thing.” That would mean the triumph of selfishness of that ‘throwaway culture’ that rejects and scorns people who do not fulfill certain criteria of health, beauty and usefulness.” Florida Catholic 24/2016

September 25 - “I find it appalling that a certain brand of feminism would put more effort into obtaining the legal sanction of murdering one’s own child than fighting for the right to carry that child to term without losing one’s pay, career path, promotion or college place.” Irish feminist Valerie Marjoram, New York Times 2/2017

Suggested Prayers

July 2 – For all women longing to have a baby, that God may bless them with a child, we pray

July 9 – That adults may learn to listen to the voices of children who know that an unborn child is a baby, we pray

July 16- That women with unplanned pregnancies may see that the temporary suffering of pregnancy is nothing compared to the joy of bringing new life into the world, we pray

July 23- That all involved in the abortion industry may come to see the humanity of the unborn child, we pray

July 30 – That those in positions of power may rely on God's wisdom in protecting the right to life of all, we pray

August 6 – That we may carefully listen to God's beloved Son when making life or death decisions, we pray

August 13 – For those facing terminal illness or disability that they may turn to Jesus for help in making it through the storms, we pray

August 20 – That those burdened by involvement with abortion may turn to the loving Father for mercy, we pray

August 27 – For an increase of appreciation for God's gift of life, we pray

September 3 – For an increased number of people with the courage to defend the right to life, we pray

September 10 – That women considering abortion may find their way to pro-life support, we pray

September 17 – For those involved in abortion or euthanasia, that they may seek God's merciful forgiveness, we pray

September 24 – For those who give their lives to help and support women with untimely pregnancies, we pray

Netherlands Physician Assisted Suicide Deaths In 2015 Totaled 7,254 - - 431 Were "Not Requested"

A recent study in the Netherlands determined how people die in the Netherlands and whether or not there are concerns with the euthanasia law. 2015's report was recently published, and it details the numbers of deaths by euthanasia, assisted suicide and "terminations of life without request."

In 2015, there were 7,254 assisted deaths in the

Netherlands. Of these, 6,672 were euthanasia deaths (where the doctor administers the means of death, supposedly on request). 150 assisted suicide deaths (the person is supplied with drugs to take his or her life), and, most chillingly, 431 were "terminations of life without request." In the Netherlands, assisted suicide deaths have increased 50% over a five year period.

Funding For Abortion To Become More Compulsory In Oregon

Salem, Ore., Jul 12, 2017 / 12:03 am (CNA/EWTN News).- The Oregon governor is expected to sign into law a proposal requiring Oregon insurers to cover abortion on demand and increasing taxpayer funding for abortion, drawing strong criticism from Catholic leaders.

"By insisting on complete insurance coverage of abortion, including late-term and sex-selective abortions, the legislature shows itself intolerant of widely-held opposing views and will compel thousands of Oregonians to support what their conscience rejects," the Oregon Catholic Conference said.

"House Bill 3391 forces insurance companies to cover abortion on demand and it forces all Oregon taxpayers to help finance an extremist abortion agenda that does not enjoy majority support."

The Oregon House of Representatives passed the bill July 5 by a 33-23 vote. The Senate passed the bill 17-13.

The initial version of the bill's religious exemptions were so narrow that the Catholic-run Providence Health System threatened to exit the state's insurance market. The bill's backers increased exemptions to the bill, but some objecting lawmakers said the provisions did not go far enough, the Catholic Sentinel reports. The exemptions

apply to churches and other religious non-profits.

Under the bill, the Oregon Health Authority must now provide abortion coverage where religious organizations will not.

The bill aims to counter expected changes in federal health care policy. It increases state spending by \$10.2 million, most of the funding aiming to provide free coverage of exams, drugs, devices, and procedures. Abortion is considered a procedure under the law.

Under the Oregon Medicaid program, over \$2 million is spent each year to pay for about 3,500 abortions, the Associated Press reports. The proposed bill sets aside about \$500,000 over the next two years to expand free reproductive health coverage, including abortion, to immigrants.

The Oregon Catholic Conference voiced hope that Oregon Gov. Kate Brown will not sign the law.

The conference encouraged citizens opposed to H.B. 3391 to support the proposed 2018 ballot initiative called the Stop Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.

The petition needs 117,000 signatures from registered Oregonian voters in order to qualify for the ballot.

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