

Transforming society to respect and protect all innocent human life.

MISSOURI SENATE PASSES HCS SB 5

The strongest pro-life legislation in recent years Gratitude to Gov. Greitens, the MO House & Senate, and You!

On July 25, the Missouri Senate took up and passed HCS SB 5 which not only expands regulations on abortion in multiple statutes, but also improves the tracking of baby body parts from abortion to prevent the buying and selling of these precious babies for research.

After the sweeping pro-life election victories in November 2016, those who support abortion on demand at any stage of development used a pro-abortion judge and a few pro-abortion St. Louis Aldermen to attempt to take away common sense regulations on abortion and to attack our religious communities.

HCS SB 5 is one of the strongest pro-life bills to be passed by the Missouri Legislature in many years! It includes:

- Complication reports from abortions showing where women are harmed by the abortionist.
- Requirement that abortion clinic personnel not interfere with a 911 emergency call to the abortion clinic when a botched abortion or medical emergency has put a woman's life in jeopardy.
- Annual on-site unannounced abortion clinic inspections to make sure abortion clinics are following the law.
- Accounting of "all" baby body parts from abortions to make sure that abortion clinics are not selling baby body parts for profit.
- Whistleblower protection for employees of abortion clinics who see law after law being broken inside these abortion clinics and want to report it, but are afraid of the repercussions by the abortionists.
- Ensuring that our top law enforcement officer, the Attorney General, has equal jurisdiction with a local prosecutor. This is needed when a local prosecutor is pro-abortion and refuses to uphold the laws when an abortion clinic or abortionist breaks the law.
- \bullet $\,$ $\,$ Protection for pregnancy resource centers and faith communities not to be forced to participate in abortion.
- Placing the term "Abortion Facilities" in the statute with ambulatory surgical centers so that the Department of Health has oversight of health and safety regulations in these abortion clinics.

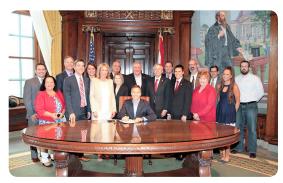
We are very grateful to the Missouri House and Senate leadership, bill sponsors, and members for the passage of this critical pro-life legislation.

Governor Greitens signed the legislation into law on July 26. It will be effective 90 days from signing.

We are especially grateful to Governor Greitens for calling this special session and for his support of this strong pro-life legislation.



Missouri Governor Eric Greitens and Missouri Right to Life Legislative Liaison Susan Klein pray at the pro-life rally for the special legislative session called to expand pro-life protections in the state.



Governor Eric Greitens signing HCS SB 5 into law on July 26. Bill sponsors Rep. Diane Franklin (to the Governor's right) and Sen. Wayne Wallingford and Sen. Andrew Koenig (to the Governor's immediate left) attend the signing. Among others present are MRL Executive Director Patty Skain and MRL Field Development Director Kaley Graves.



Pro-lifers gather on the steps of the Missouri Capitol rotunda to support the special legislative session to consider new pro-life regulations.



UK will pay \$1.3 billion to fund abortions and contraception around the world

England used (July's) "Family Planning Summit" to announce it is increasing tax dollars for abortions around the world.

The United Kingdom has committed more than one billion pounds (\$1.309 billion) in the next five years for global "family planning," the politically correct euphemism for abortion and contraception. But International Development Secretary Priti Patel acknowledged the tax funds would pay for "safe abortions."

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS) also has acknowledged that "Family planning' is contraception and abortion."

The UK government is ignoring the sentiments of its citizens. A recent Com-Res poll showed 65 percent do not want their taxes used for abortions overseas.

The Family Planning Summit was hosted by Patel representing England's Department of International Development, Melinda Gates representing the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and Natalia Kanem representing the United Nations Population Fund.

England is the second largest supporter of abortion in the world. In the past five years, Britain has given Marie Stopes International alone £163.01 million.

Last week, the BPAS declared that "the answer to unsafe abortion is not contraception, it is safe abortion," because "women cannot control fertility through contraception alone."

The BPAS advocates for global abortion promotion because more than half of foreign women whose babies they aborted in 2016 were already using contraception.

The "Family Planning Summit" claims that 214 million women need contraception. That figure is debated by Third World women themselves.

Obianuju Ekeocha of Culture of Life Africa explained that the liberal claim that millions of women "need" contraception is false. The

African-born representative of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children told the BBC that African women generally are pro-life and are not asking for contraception but for more basic necessities such as water.

"I was born in Africa, I was raised in Africa, I continue to go to Africa many times a year," she established. "You just speak to any ordinary [African] woman. I think contraception might be like the 10th thing she says [that she wants], if that."

Ekeocha said liberal Western countries' push for abortion and contraception on African women is a form of "ideological colonization."

LifeSiteNews 7/17/17

Woman sues hospital because abortion failed to kill her baby

An Italian woman filed a lawsuit against the San Paolo hospital in Milan recently because her child is alive.

The woman, who is not named in reports, had an abortion at the hospital in April 2013, but it failed to kill her unborn baby and she later gave birth to a healthy infant, Newsline reports.

Now, she wants the hospital to pay her €211,000 (about \$240,000), plus a monthly stipend because her unborn baby did not die.

The woman, 37, said she is a single mother of three. She said she had the abortion because she was afraid the child's father would not support her; she also is disabled and struggles with Crohn's disease.

Here's more from the report:

She was told that the procedure went as planned. However, when she returned a month later, tests showed that the fetus remained inside her and was told that only a surgical abortion was available.

Despite fears that her chronic inflammatory illness would endanger her life and that of the fetus, the mother nonetheless turned down the surgical intervention and gave birth to a healthy child in December 2013.

The woman's lawyers said she is struggling more financially now that she has her third child. They said her health condition is worse and she is unemployed.

Her lawsuit is in a similar spirit to wrongful birth lawsuits in the United States, where families have won millions of dollars in settlements.

In wrongful birth cases, the families argue that they would have aborted their unborn baby if they had known that the baby had a disability or ailment. They argue that their medical provider neglected to tell them important information that would have led them to abort their unborn baby.

In most cases, the parents say they love their child; but they also admit that they would have had them aborted because of an imperfect situation or imperfect health.

LifeNews.com 7/19/17

"No options were presented to me," says woman who regretted abortion

Katerina, who had an abortion and suffered great emotional pain afterward:

"The lady who met me there [at the local Family Planning Service] treated me as rudely as anyone could treat someone; there was no caring or concern in her manner. No options were presented to me. She said I was stupid to get pregnant and as I was 18 and at university she 'presumed I wanted an abortion.'

"I remember asking about the difference between local and general anesthetic and she said, 'Have [a] local as then you will know what has happened and never make this mistake again.' Her negative and unsupportive attitude is something I will always remember. I asked her at the time about other options, and she said, 'Do you want to finish Uni?'

"I ... I don't remember making the decision, just that this is what I was expected to do; from the little information I had been told it seemed there would be no support and no future for me if I was to have the child..."

From Melinda Tankard Reist, Giving Sorrow Words: Women's Stories of Grief after Abortion (Springfield, IL: Acorn Books, 2007) p. 32

NRLC News Today 7/20/17

For all you do, thank you!

From the NRLC President ~

Authors and Artists Impact Life

he pro-life movement has, for years, been blessed with many thoughtful and creative ways to spread the pro-life message through books, music, and many forms of art. The proliferation of such messaging is helping to reach new audiences in many different ways.

One of the first books published (1971) was *Handbook on Abortion* by Dr. Jack and Barbara Willke. This in-depth book was a must-have for pro-lifers. In layman's terms, it described the development of the unborn child and abortion procedures, and gave samples of how to answer pro-abortion arguments. Few pro-life speakers went anywhere without that book.

After several reprintings, including in several languages, the Willkes published a successor book, titled *Abortion Questions and Answers*. In subsequent years, there's been an outpouring of books on many subjects, from scholarly examinations of the unconstitutional basis for the U.S. Supreme Court Roe and Doe decisions to very personal accounts of abortion and raising children with severe disabilities to fiction, music, and art.

For example, back in the 1980s, National Right to Life News editor, Dave Andrusko, edited four books of essays written by NRLC staff. There were books about abortion in general and a human life amendment to the Constitution, in particular.

As the right-to-life movement grew and women who had abortions started coming forward to talk about their experiences, many books were written by the women explaining their situation at the time of the abortion and how that decision affected them.

In recent years, we have seen books from parents who share their joys and heartaches in raising children born with disabilities. Brandon and Brittany Buell's son, Jaxon, was born with microhydraencephaly and a brain just one fifth of the size of a typical brain. Jaxon turns three in August and, as his parents say, is "teaching the world about life."

Lacey Buchanan is caring for a son born with part of his face missing. Although six-year-old Christian has had many surgeries to address the various problems, he has no eyes.

Both families share the challenges of caring for children with difficult circumstances. Their books, *Don't Blink* and *Through the Eyes of Hope*, respectively, give encouragement to other parents who may be undergoing a similar experience and, for the rest of us, reinforce the belief that all children are special and all children need to be loved and protected.

Sheryl Crosier chronicles her family's heartbreak as doctors refused to treat her son, Simon, born with Trisomy 18. The book, *I'm Not a Syndrome -- My Name is Simon*, was written to warn us about secret decisions made in hospitals and doctors' offices that disregard the wishes of a child's parents. Simon died

three months after being born, when doctors issued a DNR order without telling Simon's parents.

What I find interesting now is the number of pro-life books written as fiction but with the obvious purpose of making the reader seriously think about what abortion is and what damage it is inflicting on American culture.



Carol Tobias, President National Right to Life

Although based on a true event, National Right to Life An Accidental Life by Pamela Binnings Ewen, pulls back the curtain on the abortion industry's dirty secret -- babies who survive abortion abandoned and left to die.

Cindy Brunk's work, *Love Will*, uses a car accident to bring together several families in a hospital whose lives are connected by one woman's courageous decision not to abort her child. What if she had not chosen life for her baby those many years ago?

In *I'm Not Real*, author Ty Tenbow intertwines the stories of couples on earth, their abortion decisions, and a love-filled "adoption" center where children are loved and cared for by guardian Big Al.

Music can reach people in many different ways. Those who attended NRL Conventions in past years had the pleasure of hearing Jaime Thietten perform her moving song, "My Chance," which brings attention to the emotional trauma often felt by women who have experienced abortion.

"Let Them Live" was written by the father/son writing team of Ronald and Nicholas Owen. Performed by Melodie Joy and John K Brown, the song affirms the sanctity of life at every stage of development.

I have long enjoyed "I Knew You," the beautiful painting of Shannon Wirrenga. There are many pro-life artists contributing to the culture through the use of their varied talents, from paintings and chalk drawings to sculpture. Pro-life artists are finding and encouraging each other through means such as the Facebook page, "Pro-life Artists Unite."

The many ways being used to change hearts and minds, whether it is a book, a song, or other forms of art, enrich the pro-life movement by reaching into various segments of society in new and different ways. The few books and artistry mentioned here just barely scratch the surface.

I willingly acknowledge that I am not an "artsy-craftsy" type of person so I appreciate the work of those who are. And I am grateful that so many are using their gifts and talents to promote the preciousness of every human life.

Planned Parenthood is trying to invade public schools. Here's why we need to keep them out.

- by Ryan Bomberger

There are many reasons to keep the nation's largest abortion chain out of the business of miseducating our children. Here are ten really good ones:

- 1. They promote promiscuity. When asked if "promiscuity is a bad thing, "Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA) responded: "It's a word that's used to judge or shame people." No. It's a word used to describe sexually risky behavior. Planned Parenthood encourages it, declaring: "There's nothing bad or unhealthy about having a big number of sexual partners." Our nation is facing an STD epidemic. The 18% failure rate of condoms is alarming. Birth control pills, shots, implants, rings, and IUDs don't prevent STDs at all. Abstinence is the only 100% effective way to avoid STDs, HIV, HPV and unintended pregnancy. Should a business that profits from selling abortions, birth control, and STD treatments be teaching to our teens that there's nothing wrong with promiscuity?
- 2. They fail to reduce STDs. When public schools partner with Planned Parenthood, they are being careless ... no matter what. Youth are 25% of the population yet 50% of all new STD infections. You can't teach sexual responsibility to teens by teaching them to act recklessly. PPFA's newest videos encourage casual hookups, downplay the serious consequences of STDs, and promote homosexuality (which is the highest risk factor in the contraction of HIV/AIDS, gonorrhea, and syphilis.) PPFA suggests highly risky "outercourse", such as STD-prone oral or anal sex, as an abstinence alternative. Promiscuity and anal intercourse increase the risk of anal cancer, according to the American Cancer Society. But abstinence doesn't generate a profit for Planned Parenthood. Risky behavior does.
- 3. They promote bondage sex to teens. Because teen sexual behavior isn't already risky enough, Planned Parenthood encourages BDSM (Bondage, Discipline, Sadism, Masochism). Do we really want our youth practicing sexual violence? Oh, and "no" doesn't really mean "no". In PPFA's sex tutorial for teens, it encourages creating a "safeword" other than "no." Here are some safewords: "Don't trust

your teens with Planned Parenthood."

- 4. They don't trust parents. Planned Parenthood doesn't even mention 'parents' in their latest 2015-2016 Annual Report. They think parents are dangerous. PPFA fights against every parental notification law ... regarding a minor's reproductive health, declaring, "... they put teens at risk for abuse at the hands of their parents." They want full, unrestricted access to our children.
- 5. They fail to report rape. Planned Parenthood has been found to repeatedly protect sexual abusers instead of victims. Live Action caught them in undercover videos willing to aid and abet sex traffickers. PPFA called the exposé a "hoax," yet fired one of their medical directors as a result. They don't take sexual abuse seriously. Planned Parenthood proudly partnered with faux feminist Lena Dunham to promote her Not That Kinda Girl book tour. In the book, Dunham falsely claimed she had been raped and boasted about molesting her younger sister.
- **6. They don't "know" when life be- gins.** What real healthcare organization denies basic science? Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards claims we don't

Planned Parenthood Quick Facts

According to their latest annual report (2014-2015), Planned Parenthood reports that their affiliates performed 323,999 abortions - that's nearly 35% of the estimated 926,190 abortions performed annually in the United States.

Based on the same most recent annual report, an unborn baby dies every 97 seconds inside a Planned Parenthood clinic.

Planned Parenthood's revenues for its fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 were just under \$1.3 billion. They report that 43% of their income came in the form of "Government Health Services Grants and Reimbursements."

Source: National Right to Life

know when a human becomes a human. Embryology, the scientific study of embryonic and fetal development, has been certain of this well-known fact for a long time. Dr. Micheline Matthews-Roth, of Harvard University Medical School, testified to the Senate back in 1981: "It is scientifically correct to say than an individual human life begins at conception."

- 7. They fail minorities. In NYC -- the home of Planned Parenthood -- more black babies are aborted than born alive: 1,101are aborted for every 1,000 born alive. PPFA calls this "reproductive justice," falsely claiming it's due to lack of access to reproductive healthcare. Black abortion rates are 5 times higher than whites and twice as high as Hispanics even though Hispanics have higher poverty rates than blacks (24% versus 21.5%) and higher uninsured rates (17% versus 10.5%). NYC has the highest abortion rate (36.3 abortions per 1,000 women ages 15-44) and an epidemic of STDs yet the most prevalent access to contraception.
- 8. They are more political than medical. "We aim to be a kick butt political organization," declared Cecile Richards in the New York Times. She also keynoted at the past few Democratic National Conventions -- hardly non-partisan -endorsing Democratic nominees. Planned Parenthood Action Fund, which is funded millions by PPFA, spent millions endorsing Hillary Clinton. In 2016, 99% (or \$669,935) of Planned Parenthood's Congressional election funding went to pro-abortion Democrats. Less than 1% (or \$10,000) went to two pro-abortion Republicans. Public schools are fertile ground for recruiting activists.
- 9. They are corrupt. Planned Parenthood is a billion-dollar, self-policing business that has over billed taxpayer-funded programs \$127.9 million. PPFA had to repay a small fraction of their Medicaid fraud (\$4.3 million) back to Texas and the federal government in 2013. The DOJ, which investigated the case, stated: "We are very pleased to settle this matter for an amount of money that addresses what was, in the Government's view, an abuse

(continued next column)

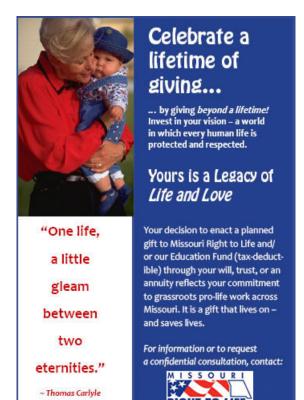
of programs that are extremely important to the well-being of many American women."

10. They kill human beings. The first black PPFA president, Faye Wattleton, at least admitted what abortion really is: "I think we have deluded ourselves into believing that people don't know that abortion is killing. So any pretense that abortion is not killing is a signal of our ambivalence, a signal that we cannot say yes, it kills a fetus, but it is the woman's body and therefore ultimately her choice." The fetus, or Latin for 'children', is not part of anyone's body but a distinct human with separate DNA. Last year, PPFA reported killing 328,348 unique human beings. Abortions bring in 80% of their 'health services' revenue enabling a \$77.5 million profit last year.

This is simply a case study in Marketing 101. PPFA perpetuates the need for their "services". They target our young, and public schools are more than willing to expose students to the medical malfeasance. Planned Parenthood misinforms. Teens comply. Customers created. Treat and repeat.

Our teens deserve much better protection than this.

Ryan Bomberger is an Emmy® Award-winning Creative Professional who founded The Radiance Foundation, a life-affirming 501(c)(3), along with his wife, Bethany. He was a headline speaker at the recent National Right to Life Convention Prayer Breakfast. This article appeared at LifeSiteNews.com.



Why is Baby Charlie Gard's government-appointed guardian a euthanasia activist? Does it matter?

~ by Nancy Valko

Editor's note: On July 24, Charlie Gard's parents ended their legal fight to give their baby a chance at life. After a five-month legal battle with London's Great Ormond Street Hospital and the European court system, Chris Gard and Connie Yates say it is now "too late" for any experimental treatment to help their 11-month-old recover.

So now we learn that Baby Charlie Gard's guardian is a euthanasia activist who is Chairman of Compassion in Dying, an "end-of-life" advocacy group with a sister organization that supports assisted suicide.

This should not be a surprise.

In a July 19, 2017, *New York Times* op-ed "Charlie Gard and Our Moral Confusion," Kenan Malik, who wrote a book on morality and ethics on moral issues, argues:

"In Charlie's case, the judges decided that it is in his interest to die even with a possibility of treatment. Mr. Conway, in contrast, wants to be allowed to die in dignity, but the law will not permit it. His motor neuron disease is incurable, and he is not expected to live beyond 12 months. His condition is painful, and will become more so. He wants doctors to be able to give him a lethal injection when he decides that it is time to end his life. Under British law, it would be a criminal offense for a doctor to do so."

"Death with dignity" is the catchphrase and death is considered the ideal end in both of these cases when viewed through the prism of so-called "dignity."

Unfortunately, this "death with dignity" must be enforced through laws and courts and even down to the medical personnel involved.

"DEATH WITH DIGNITY" AND ITS OTHER VICTIMS

In June, a Canadian home health nurse was faced with the option of participating in assisted suicide with her patients or resigning. She resigned and yet another dedicated nurse was lost to the principle of a right to "death with dignity."

However, Mary Jean Martin was afforded no dignity or rights herself. She was at the mercy of a new health care law that now mandates participation in medical lethal overdoses, an act considered medical murder before.

Ms. Martin called being forced to choose between her conscience and her job a "violation of my human rights." She wrote:

"Why has my right to peacefully follow my own beliefs within a free and inclusive society been suddenly taken away from me?" she said.

"After 30 years as a nurse these laws make me feel no longer proud of being either a health care professional in this country or Canadian citizen," she added.

The forced normalization of assisted suicide/euthanasia radically changes medicine for the healthy as well as the ill when only medical professionals willing to participate in assisted suicide/euthanasia are allowed to practice their professions.

CONCLUSION

Whether the issue is denial of food and water to brain-injured people, futility determinations overriding patients' and families' decisions, denying potentially beneficial experimental treatment, or forcing medical personnel to participate in lethal overdoses, etc., the word "choice" in these cases is a misnomer when only the choice for death is considered "dignified."

Nancy Valko, RN ALNC is a registered nurse and spokesperson for the National Association of Pro-life Nurses, as well as a past President of Missouri Nurses for Life. After working in numerous areas of healthcare for 45 years, she currently serves as a legal nurse consultant and volunteer.

Pro-Life Across Missouri



August 10 -August 20 Missouri State Fair - Sedalia ~

If visiting the state fair, stop by our Missouri Right to Life booth at the west end of the Varied Industries Building on the main street of the fair. It is staffed by MRL-Sedalia Chapter members. They'd love to see you! And do thank them for their *many* years of service at the fair!

September 8

Missouri Right to Life Education
Fund Golf Tournament sponsored

by MRL Eastern Region. The Links at Dardenne, 7000 Brassel Dr., O'Fallon MO. Sign in/lunch 11:30 a.m. with shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. Registration/sponsorship form is available on the MRL state website, www.missourilife.org or call 314.434.4900 or email mrl.eastern@yahoo.com.

Sept 27 – Nov 5 **40 Days for Life fall campaign ~** Columbia and St. Louis MO, Overland Park KS

Wardsville Walk for Life



Every spring, the Wardsville Knights of Columbus sponsor the annual Walk for Life, organized by Donna and Wayne Bernskoetter. The 200-300 pro-life participants receive donations for distance walked, and those are given to several pro-life charities, including Missouri Right to Life.

Above are some of the youngsters who put one foot in front of the other ... for LIFE ... this spring. Thank you, K of C, Donna, Wayne, and all who walked for life!



Patty Skain to retire as MRL Executive Director

In October, 1989, Missouri Right to Life received a special delivery from "He who guides us and guards us." It contained a bundle of tenacity, determination, and organization -- all topped with a halo of red hair.

Patty Skain came fully equipped to fulfill the job of Executive Director of the state's largest and most influential pro-life organization. And she has gone above and beyond all expectations in her burden to do all possible to restore respect for the sanctity of life.

Patty has been involved in every aspect of the work of MRL. In doing so, she has served with kindness, resolve, diplomacy, and composure. She has inspired us all!

Now, in September, Patty is retiring from fulltime work with Missouri Right to Life. Thankfully, she will stay involved in MRL as a part time employee and in volunteer roles

How do we say thank you? How do we recognize her 27 years of dedication? Words fail us. Yet thank her we do -- with grateful hearts and a few tears!

Enjoy yourself, Patty, and take time to smell the flowers. Something we haven't given you much time to do for the last 27 years.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

Legger 1:1

James 1:17



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NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CONVENTION 2017 "Keeping Tomorrow Alive"

Next year's NRLC Convention ~ Kansas City KS



Another successful NRLC Convention was held in Milwaukee, and Missouri Right to Life was well represented. MRL member Ann Saladin presented a workshop at the convention documenting the problems and explaining why the Girl Scout controversy matters so much.

Missouri Right to Lifers attending were (left to right) Mary Lovee Varni, , Kaley Graves, Ann Saladin, Susan Klein, Pam Fichter, Dave Plemmons, Jan Boyle, Geri Graves, Maggie Bick, Therese Sander, Steve Rupp, Philip Sherman, and Kelly Stevenson. Thanks for being there for all of us!

R.I.P. Orville F. Burkemper 1932 - 2017



A true champion for life, Orville was pro-life before the term entered the lexicon. He was the patriarch of St. Louis's pro-life community.

He passionately supported unborn babies and their mothers, saving countless little ones from the abortion chamber. The stories of Orville's exploits are endless, daring ... and beautiful!

Orville was a part of countless grassroots pro-life efforts in the St. Louis area and an ardent supporter of Missouri Right to Life, Our Lady's Inn, and Defenders of the Unborn.

He will be sorely missed by many who loved him. Rest in the glory of the Lord, dear patriarch, and know that your example will continue to lead others for years to come in defense of life!



Memorials & Honorariums

In memory or in honor of a loved one or a friend, these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.

In honor of ~ Given by ~

Maggie Bick Mary Jonz

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Meinhardt Arthur & Robin Kraatz

In memory of ~ Given by ~

Norma Beck Don & Jean Grant

Wm. & Ellen Holtmeyer
John & Elizabeth Finnane
Gregory & Lorrie Thomas

Gerald & Jaculin Wankum

Alicia Brauer John & Audrey Brauer

Madeline Ann Kelly

Dale & Janice Kelly
Robert & Gail Mazzola

Jim Harke Family

Bernaard Gnade

Neal & Janice Burkemper

Ken & Bonnie Reller

Ruth Bauer

Vernon Parr

Steve & Karen Gnade

Charles & Alice Vogelgesang

Randy & Ruth Henke

Missouri Right to Life thanks those who honor their deceased loved ones or who celebrate an important event by making a gift to MRL.



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Pray for the U.S. Senate as they find a path to repeal and replace Obamacare and defund Planned Parenthood

On July 25, the U.S. Senate voted 51-50 to proceed to begin debating on repealing major provisions of Obamacare, with Vice President Mike Pence casting the tie-breaking vote. Two Republicans, Sen. Susan Collins (R-Maine) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), joined with all Senate Democrats in voting against the motion to proceed.

Yet on July 26, according to a report on LifeSiteNews, the U.S. Senate voted 55 to 45 to reject the repealing of Obamacare and defunding of Planned Parenthood.

National Right to Life President Carol Tobias said, "National Right to Life urges the Senate to pass a bill with pro-life protections now. Abortion is not healthcare and Obamacare, with its multiple pro-abortion provisions, cannot continue to be the law of the land."

According to National Right to Life Federal Legislative Director Jennifer Popik, J.D., "Heavy work lies ahead, with multiple substitutes and amendments forthcoming. If this effort fails, Obamacare remains, along with its abortion-expanding provisions."

Additionally, National Right to Life and Missouri Right to Life oppose the multiple provisions that will result in involuntary denial of life-saving medical treatment by placing unacceptable limits on the right of vulnerable Americans to use their own money, if they choose, to obtain both health care and health insurance less likely to deny needed health care.

LifeSiteNews notes, "The (July 26) vote doesn't mean that the Senate still won't end up repealing (and possibly replacing) Obamacare and defunding Planned Parenthood. The process of Senate debate over the American Health Care Act – and introductions of various amendments to it – will carry on."

Prayer For Our Nation

God our Father, Giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to Your loving care.

You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Reclaim this land for Your glory and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders.

Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Amen