



## Keep On Keeping On

### Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act sidetracked by a few renegade House members

Carol Tobias, National Right to Life

The 42nd anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision was a day of mixed emotions, a great high and a deep disappointment.

Marches, rallies, and memorial services were held across the nation to remember the 57 million unborn children who have been lost to abortion, along with prayers, thoughts, and concern for the mothers of those children. In the nation's capital, the numbers were surely in the hundreds of thousands.

January 22nd was a day of joy as we celebrated the gift of *Life*. We rejoice as we see so many young people getting involved and taking a stand for life; saying they will be a voice for the voiceless; and promising they will not let this battle end.

It was also the day we were expecting the U.S. House of Representatives to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Unfortunately, a small number of members of the House reneged on previous commitments and launched a campaign that sidetracked the bill, for now.

The No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act was a major priority for NRLC. We are pleased the House passed that bill.

### Congresswoman hopes House leadership will listen to her ... not the voters

If you watch House proceedings on C-SPAN, you may not notice that members use electronic voting cards to cast their votes for or against a measure. In a National Journal article about the "dispute" over the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, a reporter related this quote from an unnamed congresswoman who had helped sidetrack the bill: "I think the leadership genuinely feels bad about this... I hope that that will translate into listening to people who have voting cards instead of listening to people who don't have voting cards."

This congresswoman hopes that House leadership will listen to her and other members of Congress, not the voters who put

them all there.

One of the most famous speeches in American history was President Lincoln's Gettysburg address. Lincoln memorably concluded that our government was "of the people, by the people, for the people." I wish I knew who this congresswoman was so I could send her a copy of the speech.

Another surprising aspect was the claim by Rep. Renee Ellmers (R-NC) – who gave numerous media interviews attacking the bill -- that passing the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act could hurt the Republican Party with millennials (i.e., persons age 18 to 29 or so) – a claim that some journalists apparently found plausible and amplified.

### Quinnipiac University Poll on abortions after 20 weeks

Yet a November 2014 Quinnipiac University Poll asked:

"As you may know, in 2013 the House of Representatives approved legislation that would ban virtually all abortions nationwide after 20 weeks of pregnancy, except in cases of rape and incest that are reported to authorities. Would you support or oppose such legislation?"

Sixty percent of all respondents supported the legislation, compared to 33% opposed. Among those ages 18-29, there was 57% support for the legislation, with 38% opposed. In what other poll would a 19% advantage be considered a disadvantage?

This incident reminds us that politics is a messy business. But it's also a necessary one if we are going to protect unborn babies. We remember what happened, we hold elected officials accountable, and we keep on keeping on.

I urge you to contact your representative in Congress -- let them know you are disappointed in what happened and ask that they vote to pass the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

## March 10th Pro-Life Action Day Featured Speaker



### Carol Tobias, President National Right to Life

Carol Tobias is the president of the National Right to Life Committee, the nation's oldest and largest pro-life organization. A native of North Dakota, she has served on the National Right to Life board of directors since 1987. From 1983 to 1991, she was executive director of North Dakota Right to Life and in 1991 was hired as National Right to Life Political Director, a position she held until 2005. During her tenure as political director, pro-life majorities were elected to both the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate. In both 2000 and 2004, she oversaw the efforts of National Right to Life's political action committee on behalf of George W. Bush.

She has appeared on ABC's World News Tonight, NBC's Today Show, CNN, The News Hour on PBS, C-SPAN, and Fox News Channel, as well as numerous television and radio programs throughout the country.

**Please plan to attend!**



## Missouri again earns an “F” from the abortion industry

National Abortion Rights Action League, a well-known group promoting abortion on demand, has given Missouri a failing grade for our pro-life laws and for the availability of providers to kill unborn babies. They also report that 97% of Missouri counties have no abortion providers.

For the over 20 years that the group has issued grades, our state has consistently flunked the death-dealing requirements of the abortion organization.

Praise God! Let's keep working to help mothers and to protect babies from abortion.

Information from [naral.org](http://naral.org)

Planned Parenthood President: “We proudly provide ... abortion” that killed 327,653 babies in 2013

More than half a million pro-life people took to the streets of Washington D.C. to solemnly mark 42 years of legalized abortion since the infamous Roe v. Wade decision. But one top abortion activist celebrated the occasion.

As CNS News reports, “at an invitation-only press conference ... at the National Press Club, Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards told hand-picked reporters that her organization takes pride in the millions of abortions done at its affiliated clinics around the United States”

As it reports, Richards said: “We proudly provide safe and legal abortion.”

The abortion giant Planned Parenthood recently released its 2013 annual report and the new numbers indicate it did more abortions than the previous year. The

report indicates Planned Parenthood did 327,653 abortions in 2013, an increase over the 327,166 abortions it did in 2012.

Some other takeaways from Planned Parenthood's own figures:

- In 2013, abortions made up 94% of Planned Parenthood's pregnancy services.
- For every adoption referral, Planned Parenthood performed 174 abortions.
- Planned Parenthood's cancer prevention services are down 17% over one year, and contraceptive services dropped by 4%.
- During fiscal year 2013-2014, Planned Parenthood received more than \$528 million in taxpayer funding, or more than \$1.4 million per day, in the form of government grants, contracts, and Medicaid reimbursements.
- Taxpayer funding accounts for 41% of Planned Parenthood's overall revenue.
- Planned Parenthood reported more than \$127 million in excess revenue, and more than \$1.4 billion in net assets.

LifeNews.com 1/27/15

## ~ March for Life 2015 ~

**Missouri Right to Life joined hundreds of thousands of other pro-lifers on January 22 in Washington D. C. to speak for the sanctity of life. And to remind federal legislators that every life is a gift!**



**Missouri Right to Life News**

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[www.missourilife.org](http://www.missourilife.org)

Missouri Affiliate of National Right to Life



# Thank you for spreading the message of Life!

*From the President ~*

## **New Face. Same Great Mission!**

Pam Fichter has been the President of Missouri Right to Life for the last eleven years.

She oversaw landmark pieces of legislation that became templates for laws around the country. Pam fought hard for these laws. She is the epitome of, “When the going gets tough, the tough get going.” Yet, Pam’s heart is as big as all outdoors. And her faith is unwavering and inspirational. She has worked very hard. And now Pam is at a point in her life when she wants to spend more time with her husband Tom (one of the coolest guys I’ve ever met) and their children and grandchildren. She has earned a break! Pam has stepped down as the President of Missouri Right to Life effective, January 1, 2015. I’d hate to be the one who has to follow her as President!



President Steve Rupp presents Past President Pam Fichter with red roses as a token of MRL’s appreciation.

Hi, I’m Steve Rupp and I’m the one who has to follow her as President.

Yikes!

She has some big shoes to fill. I’m asking you, my friends, to pray for me. Pray that we can keep the legacy that Pam has left us alive and growing. Pray that God will guide us to see Missouri as the first abortion-free state in the country. That’s the direction Pam has taken us, and we owe it to her to see it through!

I’ve been blessed to be married to my wonderful wife Debbie for 41 years. We have four children and seven grandchildren. We’ve been parishioners at Sacred Heart Parish in Florissant all of those years. What a *great* parish! I work for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, an apostolate of the Catholic Church that ministers to the poor. I’m a volunteer teacher in the St. Louis Archdiocesan Right Start Program that teaches eighth graders about fetal development, the realities of abortion, and God’s awesome gift of chastity -- a fabulous program! And I play Santa Claus at Mercy Hospital — maybe my favorite job!

Just a few weeks into my new position with MRL, I was in Washington D.C. for the March for Life expecting to see an historic, life-affirming bill passed in the United States Congress. Unfortunately, the vote on that bill was delayed, and, with neither of our Missouri Congresswomen as co-sponsors, many pro-life Missourians are asking why. Yikes again!

Even with difficult situations like this one, I pray that while we fight these battles, God will keep us focused on the joy of what we do. That joy is evident every single day in the pro-life movement. It is evident in the uplifting and holy people with whom we are blessed to work. It is evident when we hear a mother and father say, “We changed our minds and aren’t going to abort our child.” It is evident when, through our efforts, someone says, “I got to be loved twice. Once, when my birth mother decided to give me life. And second, when my adoptive family brought me into my new home.” What joyful gifts! And we often get to hear the most joyful sound in the world .... the sound of a giggling little baby! That glorious sound brings a smile and maybe a tear of joy into the lives of everyone who hears it. We’re working diligently to help *all* parents hear that joyful noise!

That is Missouri Right to Life and I am proud to be a part of it!

God bless!

*Steve Rupp*

## ~ The Invoice ~

Shawn Carney  
Campaign Director, 40 Days for Life

“The question I had to ask myself, as I stared at that invoice was the question that got me involved in the pro-life movement.”

As I listened to this pregnancy center worker's story, my heart dropped as I was asking myself the same question. It wasn't an easy question to think about. But it was one that gave me a gut check regarding why we are all in the pro-life movement.

January means resolutions and cold weather. Both of those tie in perfectly to a date that breaks our hearts but strengthens our resolve – the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision on January 22.

The day that marks legal abortion being imposed by judges is the saddest day on the American calendar. Yet this anniversary brings out the best in people, as hundreds of thousands -- courageously led by those who have had abortions -- march, pray, and endure the cold to give a voice to the 57 million babies who have lost their lives to abortion in the United States since 1973.

The week of the Roe anniversary is always my busiest week of the year. Leading up to it, I think about why I first got involved in the pro-life movement, back when I first attended Roe anniversary events in high school.

Abortion will end if we persevere -- persevere in prayer, persevere in resolve, and persevere in reminding ourselves of the great evil that abortion is. This isn't always easy, but it is needed. When we encounter setbacks or defeats throughout the year, we cannot forget what and who is at stake. An unexpected encounter reminded me of what we are fighting for and why so many march in the cold this time of year.

I spoke at a pregnancy center dinner and afterwards was visiting with attendees. As it got late, the room emptied out -- and one of the center's staff members came up

to introduce herself. She had a sweet and joyful face and told me that she wanted to share her story of how she first got involved in the pro-life movement. As she began to speak, her change in tone suggested it was not a typical path. I quickly learned that was the case.

She had worked at a very large Planned Parenthood abortion facility near a major city. She justified her job because she did bookkeeping and other business tasks that were separated (she thought) from what went on in the rooms next door where the abortions were done.

She relayed this information to me very comfortably and then said, “But that all changed in an instant one day when

“How many babies have to be aborted to add up to 150 pounds of ash?”

I was sitting at my desk.” She then, in a troubled tone, said that she opened and read an invoice. “The invoice was to Planned Parenthood from the local morgue. It was for \$350.” As she scanned the invoice to see what it was for, the reality of abortion hit her.

She continued, “The service listed was in bold letters that pierced my heart: **Cremation Service for 150 Pounds of Medical Waste.**”

My heart sank.

She looked me in the eye and said, “Shawn, the question I had to ask myself as I stared at that invoice was what first got me involved in the pro-life movement. The question that pierced my heart was: How many babies have to be aborted to add up to 150 pounds of ash?”

I didn't know the answer. And a big part of me didn't want to know the answer.

She went on to tell me how she resigned from the abortion industry and began working for a local pregnancy center to help women in need and to welcome

babies into the world.

I travel a lot and hear a lot of stories from salt-of-the-earth people that are working to end abortion; but that night I couldn't sleep. I kept thinking about that question and it tied back to the basic reason we pray, march and persevere -- because abortion kills a baby.

It's something we all know; and when I first realized it at a Roe anniversary event as a teenager, I was convicted to do something about it. We all know abortion kills a baby -- but we can never become numb to it. Occasionally, we are reminded of how gruesome this reality is.

Thank God we are not paralyzed in our conviction -- we can do something about it but it takes courage. C. S. Lewis said it best: “Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point.”

After 42 years of legalized abortion, we are at that testing point. For many, the Roe v. Wade anniversary is an opportunity like no other during the year to make resolutions to commit (or re-commit) ourselves to the love, joy, and courage required to see abortion end in our nation.

It may include being cold or enduring an awkward moment when you invite friends who have never participated before, but the anniversary that causes us to mourn also serves as the joyful rallying point to trust God that one day soon Roe v. Wade will be a dark memory of American history. Let's take advantage of every Roe anniversary, while working to make it the last one by committing to prayer and action.

*In addition to cofounding and directing the 40 Days for Life campaign ([www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com)), Shawn Carney is a popular speaker and the co-author of the #1 rated Amazon Christian book: 40 Days for Life: Discover What God Has Done ... Imagine What He Can Do.*



The House and the Senate have spent the first weeks of the 98th Missouri General Assembly getting rules of operation in place and committees set. The make-up of these committees is important because the committee chairmen and committee members will determine the language in each bill that will be sent to the floor for debate. Please be aware on which committees your legislators serve.

See your Senate Committee members at:  
<http://www.senate.mo.gov/15info/com-standing.htm>

See your House Committee members at:  
<http://www.house.mo.gov/CommitteeList.aspx>

As of January 30, there have been 771 bills and 76 various

resolutions filed in the House and 359 bills and 28 various resolutions filed in the Senate.

#### **A VERY IMPORTANT DATE FOR PRO-LIFERS IN 2015**

One of the most important events that you can plan to attend is Pro-Life Action Day on Tuesday, March 10th at the Missouri State Capitol. (See information below.) Please print the flyer for the event and distribute to your pro-life friends, family and church members:

[missourilife.org/legislation/2015/prolife\\_action\\_day.pdf](http://missourilife.org/legislation/2015/prolife_action_day.pdf)

Start planning buses and carpool schedules for your area. Please let the MRL State Office know that you plan to attend.

Thank you for your commitment to protecting innocent human lives! Your support of Missouri Right to Life ensures protection for innocent human lives through the legislative process!

See you in Jefferson City on March 10th at the "Show Me Life Action Day" to meet your new legislators!



**Mark your calendar!**

**Pro-Life Action Day  
2015**



**Missouri State Capitol**



**Jefferson City  
1st Floor Rotunda**

**Tuesday, March 10, 2015**

**Registration**

**1st Floor Rotunda - 10:30 a.m.**

**Selinger Center - 9:00 a.m.**

**Rally**

**12:00 noon - 12:30 p.m.**

**An opportunity for you to lobby your legislators on important pro-life legislation.**

**See pro-life citizenship in action as hundreds attend Pro-Life Action Day!**



**Special Guest Speaker  
Carol Tobias, President  
National Right to Life Committee**

**Sponsored by  
Missouri Right to Life  
telephone 573.635.5110 or  
[righttolife@missourilife.org](mailto:righttolife@missourilife.org)**

## Memorials & Honorariums

*In memory or in honor of loved ones or friends, these gifts were made to Missouri Right to Life.*

<i>In honor of ~</i>	<i>Given by ~</i>
Pam Fichter	Mary & Tim Sullivan
Elaine & David Ott	Elaine & David Ott
50th Anniversary	Bertram & Kathy Dirschell
<i>In memory of ~</i>	<i>Given by ~</i>
Alicia Marie Brauer	Audrey Brauer
Sabina Ferrari	Mary Jane & Jack Fritz
William Flocken	Ann & Eugene Poisson
Harry W. Graves	MRL Northeast Region
	Hannibal Chapter-MRL
Lynn Hebenheimer	Rose & Alan Mengwasser
	Cecilia Callahan
	Susan & Randy Arnold
	Marjorie & Michael Buckels
	Kathleen & Kirk Froehlich
	Lynn & Norbert Luebbering
	Anne & Jonathan Rost
	TL Nail & Spa LLC
	Leslie & Fred Utlaut
Martha Lock	Dorothy Lintz
Norma McElhiney	Shelby County Chapter-MRL
Rose Jean Ponder	Jane & John Poelzl
	Nancy & Art Adams
	Dolores & Joseph Chiecsek
	Jacqueline & Edward Merz
	Ann & Eugene Poisson
	Lucille & Louie Schweiss
	Brenda Gebhart
Jean Rupp	Gerard Nieters
Leo Schlatt	Barb & Bernard Greenwell
Paul Watkins	Barb & Bernard Greenwell
Mary Welch	Hannibal Chapter-MRL

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

## Marilyn Lehman ~ Jan.30, 1946 - Nov. 19, 2014

Marilyn Lehman, data entry operator at Missouri Right to Life for 13 years, passed away on November 19th from complications of surgery.

"Marilyn was dedicated to her family, her faith, and her friends. She was committed to the protection of human life and to Missouri Right to Life. She will be sadly missed at the State Office," said Patty Skain, MRL Executive Director.

Marilyn gave a generous gift to Missouri Right to Life Education Fund in her trust. Rest in peace, Marilyn.



## U.S. Supreme Court to hear Obamacare challenge

by Joshua Hawley

Next month, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear argument in what could be the biggest challenge to Obamacare yet. The case is called King v. Burwell.

I filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of Missouri citizens, and this is the bottom-line: if the challenge succeeds, this case could effectively end Obamacare in 34 states. Including Missouri.



Joshua Hawley

The suit is all about whether the Obama Administration can spend federal subsidies in states, like Missouri, that have voted not to set up Obamacare exchanges. At the time of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) adoption, even Democratic supporters worried that the law might effectively nationalize healthcare in the United States. To address this (very justified) concern, the ACA's supporters wrote the law to provide for state-run healthcare exchanges. The ACA invited states to set up and manage these exchanges where insurance would be bought and sold; for states that cooperated, the law made available generous federal subsidies for use on the exchanges.

But here is the thing: thirty-four states decided not to set up an exchange. That includes Missouri. In 2012, the voters of Missouri overwhelmingly said "no" to establishing a state exchange. According to the text of the ACA, that means the federal government may not spend federal insurance subsidies in Missouri.

And this is the most important part. The ACA further provides that if federal subsidies are not available in a given state, the individual mandate and the mandate on business does not apply.

That means, according to President Obama's own law, no Missouri citizen should be forced to purchase Obamacare health insurance. And it means that no Missouri business should be forced to provide Obamacare-approved insurance to its employees.

Now the administration is trying to evade its own law by issuing rules that essentially ignore the decisions of Missouri voters and millions of Americans in thirty-three other states.

On behalf of the thousands of Missouri voters who elected not to set up an Obamacare exchange, Missouri Liberty Project has filed a brief before the Supreme Court urging the justices to honor the democratic decision of the people of Missouri and to enforce the ACA as it is written. No president should be able to change the letter of the law with a stroke of a pen. And every president should be required to obey the Constitution and the separation of powers.

President Obama forced his healthcare law on the American people. It's time to make him obey it.

*Joshua Hawley is a constitutional lawyer and founder of Missouri Liberty Project. He is a law professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia.*



# Pro-Life Across Missouri

## save date

Feb. 18 - March 29

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Spring 2015 Campaign  
Sites in Missouri and Overland  
Park KS will participate

St. Louis MO vigil information:  
[www.CoalitionForLifeSTL.com](http://www.CoalitionForLifeSTL.com)

Columbia MO vigil contact:  
Kathy and Mike Forck  
573.821.5130

Overland Park KS vigil contact:  
[40daysforlifekc@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlifekc@gmail.com)

Tuesday, March 10

Pro-Life Action Day  
State Capitol  
Jefferson City MO

**Please plan to participate!**



(Above) The Sedalia Chapter-MRL commemorates the 42nd anniversary of Roe v. Wade with a service to place roses at Sedalia's memorial to children killed by abortion.



(Left) Nancy Valko, past president of Nurses for Life, speaks at the December MRL Statewide Meeting. With professional experience in medical and ethical decisions in areas of end-of-life decisions and care, Ms. Valko discusses the decline in medical ethics with those in attendance.

### Missouri Right to Life T's and Polos

*"Perfect for Pro-Life Action Day!"*

T-shirt	\$10
Polo Shirt	\$20
Golf Shirt	\$30



Contact Missouri Right to Life at 573.635.5110 for size and ordering information. Shirts will be available at Pro-Life Action Day.

### Umbert the Unborn by Gary Gangemi



Take a look!



**Please be sure to return your membership for 2015!**

You know that we depend on you! If you haven't yet done so, please return your recent membership mailing or use the envelope enclosed with this MRL News. Thank you so much for being part of our pro-life family ... for joining us in supporting LIFE!

## Inside ~

- See you at Pro-Life Action Day!
- Meet MRL's new State President
- "The Invoice" -- and its impact

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## *You Made a Difference!*

Remember last year when you lobbied, prayed, and supported the 72-Hour Reflection Bill as it made it's way through the legislature? Read on ...

Missouri's newest pregnancy center, Pregnancy Resource Center of Sikeston, has confirmed a mother's decision not to have an abortion. Missouri's 72-hour reflection period appears to have made a difference! Here is the note from the mother:

"For the past couple months I've been trying to cope with an unplanned pregnancy at 23 with a five year old I already raise on my own. I went to an abortion clinic in a desperate attempt and paid them \$500 to perform a procedure I knew wasn't right. During the "72-hour wait period" my grandmom showed me a post you added on Facebook. I screen shot it and stared at it for those three days. I prayed and prayed and decided to keep my baby. God always delivers on time because posting that probably saved my son's/daughter's life. Thank you."

Please remember this young woman in your prayers!



Heavenly Father,

**You have shown great kindness to this woman and have made her the mother-to-be of a child.**

**Now let Your promise to her be confirmed – that when she chooses life, she and her child will live abundantly (Deuteronomy 30:19). Give her wisdom and knowledge that she may lead and guide this child.**

**For who can raise up a child without Your help?**

**Amen.**

*~ Birthmother Ministries*