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NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 1971 APRIL 5,

ONTACT: 202-638-6235

Executive Secretary Michael A. Taylor Washington, D.C.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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In his forthright stand against abortion as public socia The following statement was issued by Juan J. Ryan, President of the National Right to Life Committee, with the agreement of the Board of Directors.

> We congratulate President Nixon on his recent directive reversing UAN J. RYAN, ESQ. the abortion-on-demand policy previously in effect in military hospitals. In ordering that abortion procedures in military hospitals be in conformity with the laws of the states in which the hospitals are located the President has shown courageous and responsible leadership.

What is especially encouraging, however, is the President's opposition to an abortion policy in which the rights of unborn children are not taken into consideration. In his statement he noted that the unborn have rights recognized by our laws and by the United Nations. The sanctity of human life, indeed, includes "the life of the yet unborn."

As some mistakenly turn to abortion as a solution to social problems, we firmly agree with the President that the American people should "open its hearts and homes to the unwanted children of its own, as it has done for the unwanted millions of other lands." The problems associated with population growth or poverty will not and

should not be solved by the destruction of innocent life.

In his forthright stand against abortion as public social to make a second and the second standard and support policy, President Nixon deserves the special thanks and support of the American people.

JUAN J. RYAN, ESQ.

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National Right to Life Committee

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LEGISLATION ON ABORTION 1971*

	No.	Date				
State	of Bill	Introduced	Committee	Summary		
setor, hosector, hosector, hosewomen who or more if such	S123 of Li	eave In.de a pital, consc AOD (up to 2 pital, consc consent of w Re sterilization billegitimate	Public Hea. & Safety Public Hea. & Safety Public Hea. Public Hea.	AOD (total repe ALI 20 wk limit provision that Health make cou tarily availabl Conscience clau hospital). Pro liability. In Records.	the Dept. mseling value to the use (doctory ovision for	of volun- woman. or and or non-
Ark.	Н495	Feb. 17	Public Health	Re examination of fetuses.	and dispo	osal
	A315	Feb. 1	Judiciary	That "human reminclude a dead		
no time It is in- the "Whereas evallable	lause hospital, hospital, seridency hov.1972. ast one of the best one than one	Feb. 2 Sen. MacManus	State Markets Affairs London	This bill is de tighten up the type law: that allowed (a) whe "because of her current state of results in the an", and (b) in week limit), if 5 days; conscie	present A abortion on the pre- the wom of bodily death of neest or n	all as be egnancy man's) health, the wom- cape (16
	332 h anol d nadr ero fluaer a as). 6 mos.	Jan. 7 gel 1969, and m women died er care" ALI (16 wks Conscience ACD (repeal	State Affairs	"A bill for an Population Contafter 24 wks, A (2) State incomlimited to 2 na \$50,000 approprimale vasectomies	Act Conce crol:" (1) ALI type p me tax executural chi criation for	erning AOD provisions emption be aldren. (3)
nse Doctor, dency,	S200 H1136 II e		State Affairs Health, Wel- fare & Insti- tutions	AOD (20 weeks) Re family plans provision that mother who has children is eli bursement from vasectomy/salpi that \$50,000 be	any fathe 2 or more gible for the state	er or e natural r reim- e for a es, and
Conn.	H5476 S648		Judiciary Public Hea. & Safety	AOD (total repe AOD (NY type -		

*As indicated by our records as of February 26, 1971

A. FOROLBRARL

	No.	Date	TION ON ABORTIC	
State	of Bill	Introduced		Summary
Conn.	S331	Jan.22	Public Hea. & Safety	AOD (NY type - 24 wks)
	imit. With	Feb. 10		AOD (up to 20 wks - thereafter to save woman's life). Doctor, hospital, conscience clause
-nulov	н6585	Feb. 10	Public Hea. & Safety	AOD (up to 20 wks). Doctor, hospital, conscience clause. Legal
-non rol	Н5378	Conscience conspital). liability. Records.	Public Hea.	consent of woman. Re sterilization: any woman who has given birth to two or more illegitimate children, if such children are being supported by
		He examination of fetuses.		the welfare department, be en- couraged to be sterilized at
		That "human include a d		state expense. Any such woman who is sterilized shall receive a cash bonus of 300 dollars.
Fla.	S206 395 5	Pre-filed	Judiciary	ALI (16 weeks) 6 mos. residency. Conscience clause
ons be regnancy onen's) y health, f the wom rape (16	S25 seld of the property of the death of the	current sta results in results in an", and (b week limit)	Judiciary Criminal	AOD, doctor, hospital, no time limit. 6 wks residency. Requires referendum Nov.1972. It is interesting that one of the "Whereas according to the best available evidence, more than one million women in the U.S. obtained il-
cerning 1) AOD provisio	an Act Con Control:" ("A bill for Fopulation after 24 wk		legal abortions during the year 1969, and more than 8,000 of the women died as a result of improper care"
hildren. for 2,000	S26 Wind S	Pre-filed	Judiciary Criminal	ALI (16 wks). 6 mos. residency. Conscience clause
	(82	Pre-filed	Judiciary Criminal	AOD (repeal)
	s83	Pre-filed Pre-filed	-Level de la company Judiciary	AOD. No time limit. Doctor, hos- pital, conscience clause AOD (repeal)
	H28	children is	Criminal Judiciary	AOD Non-viable fetus. Doctor,
	alpingectom O be approp	vasactomy/s	Criminal	hospital, 6 mos. residency, conscience clause.
		this purpos		AOD (12 whs - thereafter medical indication)
	н68	Pre-filed Sackett	Judiciary Public Hea. & Safety	Death with dignity bill
Ga.	н647	Feb. 17	Health & Ecology	AOD (up to 20 wks - thereafter when an abortion is required according to the doctor's best clin-
				ical judgment, presuming that

.

	77_	Data.		erse von
-	No. of Bill	Date Introduced		Summary
Ga.			Environment	emergencies can occur). Provided: based on the best clinical judg- ment of a licensed physician, with concurrence in writing by 2 other licensed physicians following
			al Matters	their separate medical examina- tions; hospital; records be kept.
the Common oridge the oridge the les of its deprive s unborn, or perty, with		Amenda Bill srticle. S wealth will any law whi privileges citizens; n person, inc life, liber tection of	Judiciary	"If an abortion is performed in compliance with this section, the death of the fetus shall not give rise to any claim for wrongful death." A hospital, physician, or other person who is requested to perform, or cooperate in the performance of an abortion can refuse to so cooperate if they state their objection is writing.
		Feb. 4	Soc. Welfare	ALI type, though exceptions are specified: (a) if continuation
daildadaa			Judiciary Soc. Welfare	of pregnancy would endanger the life of the mother; (b) forcible
e use of P			Soc. Welfare	rape or incest (12 wk limit). Hospital committee, conscience clause, doctor, in a hospital.
Ills.	H43	Jan. 6		AOD (up to 20 wks - thereafter ALI type).
		e- day resid	Executive	Commends Federal Judge William J. Campbell in his "incisive dissent" in the abortion decision.
Ind.	s679	Feb. 10	Public Hea. Welfare &	AOD (repeal). Only physician can perform an abortion.
Iowa			Soc. Security Judiciary	AOD (up to 20 weeks). On Feb. 11 the Iowa House of Representatives voted 56-44 to defeat the bill.
	H1501	Feb. 17	Hea. Welfare & Corrections Rules & Admin istration	Amendments to present ALI type law. Conscience clause (hospitals) records, 3 doctor committee.
Me.	Hloo	Jan. 12	Judiciary	AOD (total repeal)
d b. bM conne in licence proved by sed physic	HIOO TELE	Feb. 1	Environment- al Matters	AOD (20 wk. limit). A clause to protect doctors from law suits. "No physician shall be subject to any penalty, criminal or
ecords.	e clause. R	Plame as S	He Welfare	disciplinary, or liable civilly by reason of any termination of pregnancy performed upon the request of the patient if the

State	No. of Bill	Date Introduced	Committee	Summary
	H240	Feb. 1	al Matters	physician in good faith, believes that not more than 20 weeks of gestation have been completed at time of said termination." Amends existing abortion law (ALI type) by reducing time limit from 26 to 20 weeks.
Mass.	10h 406 miles also della sela sela sela sela sela sela sela	Pre-filed		Amends Bill of Rights - first article. States that the Common-wealth will not make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of its citizens; nor shall it deprive any person, including the unborn, of life, liberty, or property, within its jurisdiction, the equal protection of laws.
	S657 H4504	Pre-filed Pre-filed Pre-filed Jan. 13	Soc. Welfare Soc. Welfare Judiciary Soc. Welfare	AOD (total repeal) AOD. Conscience clause. AOD.(total repeal) AOD Health department establish counseling service.
ospital.		Jan. 11 Jan. 13	Soc. Welfare	Study commission An act to prohibit the use of Public Welfare funds to procure out of state abortions.
Mich.	the shortion an abortion an shortion weeks).	Feb. 13		- AOD (up to 4 lunar months). 90 - day residency, conscience clause. Aclause to protect doctors from law suits: "Action taken by physician in his discretion pursuant to the application shall relieve him from any criminal liability."
egyd I.I.A (selgeod)	н836 н588 s430	Feb. 18 Feb. 9 Feb. 9	Hea. Welfare & Corrections Hea. Welfare & Corrections Rules & Administration	Conscience clause (doctors, nurses, others). Same as S430 Defines punishment for anyone other than a licensed physician
	S530	Feb 12	Judiciary	who attempts to procure the mis- carriage of a woman. 90 day residency requirement; abortion is performed because of medical indications in licensed hospital; must be approved by a
	н757	Feb. 16	Hea. Welfare & Corrections	committee of 3 licensed physicians; conscience clause. Records. Same as S530

				*.
State	No. of Bill	Bill Introduced	Committee	Summary 1011
spentic abo ed: presentife, rape o lowing circ physician	H879 Ted Trendom Le Trendom	tions may tions may vation of incestion stances:	Hea. Welfare & Corrections	Prohibiting any person from aiding or advising any woman to remove herself from the state for an abortion, from publicly advocating that women seek abortions, from advertising the availability of facilities for abortion or from soliciting abortions.
Miss.	H204 H468	Pre-filed Jan. 12	Judiciary Judiciary	AOD (New York type) 24 wk limit.
nim s 11		H204 was ki	lled in committ	see by vote of 11-2.
enbers) the enders of each of account	House	Feb. 8 1 solidated as the second of the seco		A referendum on Nov. 1972 amending the Constitution to provide that "all persons from the moment of conception have a natural right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and enjoyment of the gains of their own industry; that all persons are created equal and are entitled to equal rights and opportunity under the law; that to give security to these things is the principal office of government, and that when government does not confer this security, it
	н73	Jan. 7		fails in its chief design. Permits treatment for minor patient where services are given in connection with pregnancy but
	н650	Feb. 9		excluding abortion. AOD (only non-viable fetus)
Mont.	Н554	Jan. 21	Public Hea.	AOD (no age limit or residency requirement; conscience clause).
$\underline{\mathtt{Nev}}.$	A4 OSI	Jan. 19	Judiciary	AOD (repeal).
N.H.	Н239	Feb. 10	Public Hea. & Welfare	ALI (limit of 24 wks; 90 day residency).
Dewolls ad	H240	Feb. 10	Public Hea.	AOD (New York type - 24 wks).
e women's 1	H252	Feb. 11	Public Hea.	(Bentia) (Schemerh
N.M.	S158	Feb. 2	Public Affairs	AOD (total repeal)
55. me limib to l bill: A31	H218	Feb. 9	Corporations & Banks	The effect of this bill is to tighten up the present ALI type law. Defines: conception, pregnancy, abortion, therapeutic abortion, criminal abortion,

No. Date		No. Bill
State of Bill Introduced	Committee	Summary
Prohibiting any person from aid-	THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T	The Contract of the Contract o
move herself from the state for an abortion, from publicly advocating that women seek abortions, from advertising the availability of facilities for abortion or from soliciting abortions.	& Correction	accredited hospital, therapeutic abortions committee, physician, embryo, fetus. Therapeutic abortions may be performed: preservation of mother's life, rape or incest:under the following circumstances: a) licensed physician b) licensed hospital c) under no
	Judiciary	circumstances after 12th week of conception d) written consent of
ALI ttee by vote of 11-2.	Judiciary	woman and husband or, if a minor,
A referendum on Nov. 1972 amending the Constitution to provide that all persons from the moment of conception have a natural right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and enjoyment of the gains of their own industry; that all persons are created equal and are entitled to equal rights and opportunity under the law; that to give security to these things to the principal office of government, and that when government does not confer this security, it fails in its chief design. Permits treatment for minor patient where services are given the connection with pregnancy but excluding abortion.	Willed IN Commi	parent or guardian e) written certification by therapeutic abortions committee (3 members) that continuance of the pregnancy will probably result in death of mother f) therapeutic abortions committee decision must be unanimous. Requires fetal death certificate that must contain: name, age, address of woman; name & address of hospital, name & address of husband or guardian; name, address and signature of doctor; date of conception; date of abortion; reason for abortion & method names & addresses of members of therapeutic abortions committee. Contains conscience clause.
N.Y. S20 Pre-filed (Donovan)	Codes	To amend and repeal present law so as to allow abortion only to
ACD (no age limit or residency requirement; conscience clause).	. Public Hea.	preserve life of the woman. Identical bills: A1420, A2774, A2897.
A1420 Jan. 11	Codes	Same as S20.
A2774 Jan. 26 (Crawford) A2897 Jan. 26	Codes Codes	Same as S20.
A95 (Mondello) A95 Pre-filed (Hausbeck)	Codes	To amend: abortion be allowed only to preserve the woman's life. Identical bill: S355.
S355 (Schermerhorn	n)	Identical to A95.
A360 Pre-filed (Brown)	Codes	To amend: abortion be allowed only to preserve the woman's life.
a The effect of this bill is to	Corporation	Similar to: A95, S355.
Second Line Second Pre-filed (Speno) A3183 Jan. 27	Codes	To amend: reduce time limit to 12 weeks. Identical bill: A3183. Same as S66.
(Mondello)		

State	No. of Bill	Date Introduced	Committee	Summary 1112 to edad?
N.Y.	S2029	Jan. 19 (Niles)	Codes	To amend: reduce time limit to 16 wks. Identical bill A1778
	A1778		Codes ashop	Same as S2029
	S15	Pre-filed	Codes	Amends present law: 90 day resi-
		(Griffin)		dency; 12 wk limit; in hospital
				or approved clinic; conscience
	L sasistan	for medica	Services	clause.
	\$64	Pre-filed	Codes	To amend: abortions cannot be
woman.		(Speno)		done in state supported hospitals
			Lalcol	unless woman is a resident of
				N.Y. for 60 days. Identical bill:
- Mamour	A3184	Ton OF	Cadas	A3184
	A3104	(Mondello)	Codes	Same as S64
	A630 Fee	Pro-filed	Codes	To amend: no abortion be perform-
		(Shoomalcon)	codes	ed in a hospital or clinic that
	Moers. Id	To ditional		is supported by state moneys un-
				less the woman has been a resi-
			Health	dent of the state for 6 mos.
	S65	Pre-filed	Codes	To amend: abortion be done only
		(Speno)		in approved and certified hos-
				pitals. Identical bill: A3185.
nat birth &	A3185	Jan. 27	Codes	Same as S65.
		Mondollol		2
ent necessar mother in-	A3'792	Feb. 3	Codes	Requires that consent of woman
				be written and that act be per- formed in hospital.
	91600	Tan 12	Health	No local board of health shall
	DIOOC		usys & Mean	require termination of pregnancy.
				Identical bill: Al433.
	A1433	Jan. 11	Health	Same as S1600.
	S2570	Tan 27	Codes	To amend: conscience clause -
		(Donovan)		doctor & hospital not liable for
			(.IA.5%	damages that may result from re-
	der Burphile			fusing to perform an abortion.
	nordee 1100	dua tent		Identical bill: A2765.
rotoob role	A2765	Jan. 26	Codes	Same as S2570
section whi	(1000)	Carroll Et. A		Me emends no homital elimin
	55024	ren. To	Health	To amend: no hospital, clinic, physician, nurse or other per-
				sonnel shall be obligated to
		Lentatro		perform or assist in performance
				of abortion.
	A2767	Jan. 26	Codes	To amend: a doctor or hospital
ad ispran				are not liable for damages if
				they refuse to perform an abortion
d to a huma	A4241	Feb. 10	Codes	Conscience clause.
L born and L	S1788	Jan. 14	Codes	Abortion is not justified where
P111: A3164				the female is married and living
		Ba ema8	FOS.000	with her husband and the husband
		(LA.JE	Tumer 101, Cop	has notified such physicians that

	No.	D 1		
State	of Bill	Date Introduced	Committee	No. Date
-	STATE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN NAMED IN C	Provident and an appropriate transporter	COUNTITCEE	Summary Lile to state
N.Y.	reduce time	To amend:		he objects to the abortion. Identical bill: A725.
-lasy yab. oc	A725	Pre-filed	Codes ashoo	Same as S1788
	addon't be	(Wemple)	Codes	815 Pre-filed
	A3600	Feb. 3	Codes	Similar to S1788, A725
	25	Pre-filed	Social	Excludes the cost of abortion
ed donnas	apolitrods	(Donovan)	Services	for medical assistance to needy
ted hospitals	tate suppor	done in s		persons, except when abortion is to save the life of woman.
sident of entired bill:	A2777	Jan. 26	Social	Excludes the cost of abortion
TTTE TERTILE	DI Jayab 0d	TOT .Y.H	Services	for medical assistance to needy
		A3184		persons, except when abortion is
			Codes	to save the life of woman.
on be perform	\$370	Pre-filed	Health	Fetal tissue of under 20 wks
clinic that	TO LEST LOSO	(Donovan)		gestation shall be disposed of in a manner prescribed by the local
-nu sysmom st	ted by stat	TOOMER DE		health officers. Identical bill:
				A2775
vico enos os	A2775	Jan. 26	Health	Same as S370
-sod hely hi		(Crawford)	Codes	865 Pro-filed
tified hos-	8371	Pre-filed	Taxation	No personal income tax exemption
	365.	(Donovan)		granted without affidavit of physician stating that birth &
*				death certificates were filed &
namow to in	that conse			that medical treatment necessary
act be per-	and the me	be writte		to preserve life of mother in-
flada dilse				directly caused fetal birth &
of pregnancy.	10770	#ILLITING	Health	death. Identical bill: A2778
1433.		Jan. 26 (Crawford)	Ways & Means	Same as S371
	A176 000 E	Pre-filed	Codes	AOD (total repeal).
ce clause -	conscien	(Russo)	2000 e	TS and Overs
-91 mort dire	S2175	Jan. 20	Codes	Repeals several sections of the
	(Oh	renstein Et.	Al.)	criminal law that relate to abor-
				tion, including repeal of section
	82570	Same as		that authorize license suspension
			/ra	or other discipline for doctors who perform criminal abortions
tel, elinic,	is no hospi	To amend	ndf.seH	and repeal of that section which
-Teg redto	n, nurse or	of physicis		authorizes the investigation of
in performanc	do ed flad	sonnel s		a death caused by suspected
		perform of abort		criminal abortion; completely
Lastiqued to r	ic a doctor	To amend		removes the death of an unborn
	liable for	don erre	•	child of more than 24 weeks from
	fuse to per	or they re		the category of homicide; "person when referring to a victim of
	nce clause.	Conscien	Codes	homicide is limited to a human
stified where ied and living		Abortio	Codes	being who has been born and is
nd the husband	B. bredand w	msi shi		alive. Identical bill: A3164
	A3164	Jan. 27	Codes nthal, Cook, E	Same as S2175
	(Lei	chter, Blume	nthal, Cook, E	t.A.L.)

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	3			-9-	No. : Date
		No.	Date	d Committee	State of Bill Infroduce
	State	of Bill	Introduced	Committee	Summary
	N.Y.	S2752	Jan. 27 (von Luther)	Codes	Provisions of this law are essentially the same as S2175
	n-name gth of g at forw labors of a la	stus, leng sician mus d clinical direction t for a gr	Jan. 28 (von Luther)	Codes Dem try Hea. Car try Hea. Car Air & Water Follution	Provisions of this law are essentially the same as S2175. A section relating to the practice of medicine is to be amended to read: "The termination of pregnancy shall be considered to be treatment of a physical condition."
econ-		d of 876SA weighty fetus slature,	Jan. 21 maintenance no notate igal and of be		Provides that the right to ter- minate pregnancy under medical supervision in a hospital shall be deemed a civil right of every
A A	(North	Carolina	below)	of don and di re	female person.
willed	N.D.	H1500	Jan. 25	Soc. Welfare	ALI - the bill was reported to the floor with the committee
	L ed of	t female .		Assistance	voting 11-3 that the bill be defeated. On Feb. 4 the House defeated the bill 85-13.
dines		н67 н72	Jan. 6 Jan. 11	Judiciary Judiciary	AOD (bill copy not received) AOD (bill copy not received)
n def	Ore.	S206	Feb. 12 Feb. 23	Hea. &	AOD (repeal - requires only that physician perform the abortion). AOD
	N.C.	Н5	Jan. 13	Health	AOD - 90 days residency, doctor, hospital. Certification that
			Feb. 24	Judiciary	the fetus is no more than 4 mos. old. Conscience clause An act to make having an abor-
	tled to es and may no uch fec ion."	and enti facilità hospital que of s		A. FORDUBRAS	tion without the consent of the husband grounds for an absolute divorce and to exempt related testimony from the physician-patient privilege.
			Jan. 20	Finance	Study commission, "to Study All Aspects of the Voluntary Termination of Human Life."
		н1143	Jan. 19	Hea. Ed. & Welfare	AOD - doctor, hospital, 14 wk limit.
	S.C.	H1199	Feb. 2	Judiciary	Amends present law (ALI) in that in case of mental health there
		eejjlmu	ht to Life Con	he Wational Rig .O. Box 9365	be a 20 wk limit
	Wash.	Н319	Jan. 25		Defines murder: : "the killing of an unborn quick child by

QL-L-	No.	Date	Committee	Common and
State	of Bill	Introduced	Committee	Summary
			the contract of the contract o	State of Bill Introduce
as sally aw are es- s 82175. A the practice ton of preg- dered to be cal condi- ght to ter- er medical ght of ever ght of ever	A euthanas	Jan. 13		any wilful injury committed upon the mother of such child is murder in the second degree. Certification of termination must be filed by physician-name, age marital status, length of gestation. Physician must forward fetu to licensed clinical laboratory under the direction of a licensed pathologist for a gross examination; pathologist must furnish state board of health a report containing weight, length & condition of fetus to the legislature, but so far introduced Cf. Morris, Arval A. iew, Vol. 45, No.2, 1970, 239-271.
W. Va.	H1028	Feb. 15	Judiciary	Permits pregnancy of a mentally incompetent female to be lawfully terminated. Doctor, hospital, conscience clause.
	A14 A161	AOD (repor	Judiciary Judiciary	AOD (total repeal) Requires that when death results from an abortion, the death cer- tificate shall so state.
e abortion)			Hea. & Soc. Services	Removes contraceptives from definition of indecent articles - sale of devices to procure miscarriages
	H246		AOD	Doctor, hospital. A physician may conscientiously refuse to
ng an abor- nsent of the an absolute of related physician- to Study All ntary Termin	to the control of the	od dos na dithy noit s bnadaud s sorievit vnonitant d dnaitan Jan. 15 o adsegaa To noits	Judiciary Timance Hea. Ed. & Welfare	perform an abortion. However, "any physician who is otherwise qualified and entitled to the use of the facilities and ser- vices of a hospital may not be denied the use of such facilities to perform an abortion." Provides penalty for anyone who unlawfully kills an unborn child or causes a miscarriage by any assault wilfully committed upon a pregnant woman.

NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE

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April 12, 1971

Executive Secretary Michael A. Taylor Washington, D.C.

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Rep. William J. Rogers Room 5 West State Capitol Madison, Wis. 53702

Dear Mr. Rogers.

Thank you for the letter and information of Mar. 26. The enclosed information is of two types, that describing our legislative program to date and a kit of general information on abortion.

Your proposal for a Constitutional Convention has been forwarded to Martin McKernan, our legal consultant, who will send you a legal appraisal under separate cover.

Last Spring and Summer a consensus emerged from the Right to Life groups that we should go on the offensive, legislatively and otherwise. The establishment of Birthright programs (Public Relations Manual, 19) is a striking example of the latter. A concrete legislative example of this positive approach was the prohibition of abortion in an amendment added to the Family Planning Act of 1970 (see the speech of Rep. John Dingell and related materials).

On the state level several proposals have been effected (due process procedure in Georgia law), or else proposed. The report on the lawyers meeting of Mar. 5-6 illustrates the diverse reactions that are probably not atypical. The primary intent of our postive legislative approach has been to formulate laws to be enacted that will adequately protect the rights of the unborn, but also those of the mother and father.

The proposals closest to yours are the constitutional amendments before the Massachusetts' and Missouri Legislatures. The Missouri legislator who introduced HR. 39, like yourself does not realistically expect the Resolution to pass, but intends that it should underline the already existent constitutional rights of the unborn. Your proposal differs in at least two respects, that you specify the conditions under which the right to life of the unborn is to be abridged, to save the mother's life, and, secondly, you extend to Congress the right to legislate regarding public health, welfare and morals. The latter is contrary to the traditional relegation of abortion legislation to the states.

The former may not be agreeable to many non-Catholics who are adamantly opposed to indiscriminate abortion, but who would consider abortion in some limited specified circumstances beyond the need to save the life of the mother.

The proposals of Massachusetts and Missouri would seem to accomplish your goals, with a minimum of complications. Our people seem to be cool to the ideal of a Constitutional Convention. In the light of their present efforts it seems unnecessary. There is also the broad fear that if it were to become a reality, it might backfire badly. At the present time, efforts are directed in two directions to establish the rights of the unborn: by judicial interpretation of existing laws and legal traditions (see the <u>Legal Report</u> of Mar. 1971) - and in this regard we have worked ourselves into a strong position; and by the construction of abortion laws that can pragmatically and adequately defend the rights of the unborn. So far this year, the hard work of state Right to Life groups has effected the defeat of permissive abortion legislation in some nineteen states.

As you can see the question of legislative strategy is an ongoing debate in the Right to Life groups. I would very much appreciate your remarks or observations.

Sincerely yours,

(Mr.) Michael Taylor

Executive Secretary

Enc.

cc: Dr. Fred Mecklenburg Martin F. McKernan

MAT/sem



Mr. ____ moves to amend H. F. No. 879, the typewritten bill, as follows:

Page 1, strike lines 17 and 18

Page 1, line 19, before the word "Advertise" strike the figure "(3)" and insert in lieu thereof the figure "(2)"

Page 1, line 22, before the word "In" strike the figure "(4)" and insert in lieu thereof the figure "(3)"

Page 1, lines 24, 25, 26 and 27, after the word "felony" strike "and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to imprisonment for a period not to exceed five years or be fined not more than \$5,000, or both"

Page 2, after line 5, add a new section as follows:

"Sec. 2. (REPORTING ABORTIONS.) Subd. 1. Any person who causes women to miscarry an unborn child within this state shall, within 30 days, report such incident and the circumstances thereof to the state board of health on forms prescribed by such board.

Subd. 2. The chief administrator of any hospital within this state wherein any woman shall miscarry an unborn child shall, within 30 days, report the incident and the circumstances thereof to the state board of health on forms prescribed by such board.

Subd. 3. The state board of health shall forward to the county attorney of any county wherein any miscarriage reported pursuant to Subdivisions 1 and 2 hereof has occurred, a copy of such report, and such county attorney may make such further investigation of such miscarriage as he shall deem necessary to ascertain whether or not such miscarriage was accidental or justified under the laws of this state.

Subd. 4. Any person failing to comply with Subdivisions

1 or 2 of Section 2 of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

Further amend the title in lines 5 and 6 by striking the

following: "from publicly advocating that women seek abortions,"



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