



LifeLine

A publication of Pikes Peak Citizens for Life
August 2016

*Pikes Peak Citizens for Life works to protect the innocent, helpless, vulnerable members of our human family
– young and old, infirm and healthy, born and preborn.*

Pro-life Democrats Defending the Hyde Amendment

Live Action News reports that a group of pro-life Democrat senators are speaking out against an effort to add “taxpayer-funded abortion” to the 2016 Democrat Party platform.

In a letter to the platform committee, Senator Bob Casey of Pennsylvania reminded the party leadership, *“that many Americans remain morally opposed to abortion, and do not wish to see their tax dollars go to pay for abortion.”*

West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin called the platform change “crazy.” In an interview with the Weekly Standard, he said, *“It’s something that I know most of the Democrats in West Virginia and most West Virginians would not agree with. I don’t either.”*

Senator Joe Donnelly of Indiana released a statement saying that he *“has long supported and continues to support the Hyde Amendment, and as a pro-life Senator believes all life is sacred.”*

Even pro-abortion North Dakota Senator Heidi Heitkamp disagrees with Democrat attempts to repeal the Hyde Amendment (which bans federal Medicaid funding of abortion), saying she *“supports the Hyde amendment and a state’s right to mandate parental consent for minors or restrict partial birth abortions, except when medically necessary to protect the life of the woman,”*

According to LifeNews.com, *“The proposed Democratic Party platform this year is more extreme than it has ever been, calling for a repeal of the Hyde Amendment and full-fledged taxpayer funding of abortion.*

“It also specifically names the abortion giant Planned Parenthood and calls for support of its work. The current Democratic Party platform already supports legalized abortion on demand for any reason up until birth.”

Ref: Live Action News, Cassy Fiano, “Pro Life Democrats” 12 Jul 2016
<http://liveactionnews.org/pro-life-democrats-are-fighting-their-partys-efforts-to-repeal-the-hyde-amendment/#more-97528>

2016 Republican Platform May be Most Pro-Life Ever

According to Politico, the Republican Party is considering an even stronger pro-life platform for 2016 – calling specifically for an end to taxpayer funding of Planned Parenthood and a ban on research using aborted baby organs and tissues.

The proposed GOP platform also condemns the U.S. Supreme Court’s recent decision to overturn a Texas law requiring abortion clinics to meet basic health and safety standards and stresses the need for judges who will reverse the decision and uphold the right to life for unborn babies.

These would be additions to the current Republican Party platform, which supports a human life amendment to the Constitution, recognizing unborn babies as human beings with equal rights under the Fourteenth Amendment.

“The life language that came out the constitution subcommittee is even stronger than the 2012 language,” said Billy Valentine, director of government affairs at the Susan B. Anthony List. *“It very well may be the strongest pro-life platform yet.”*

The proposed platform maintains Republican opposition to taxpayer funding for abortions and groups that do abortions.

Ref: Politico, Jennifer Haberkorn, “Republicans building” 11 July 2016
<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/07/republicans-abortion-platform-225391>

Ref: LifeNews, Micaiah Bilger, “New GOP Platform...” 12 Jul 2016
<http://www.lifenews.com/2016/07/12/new-gop-platform-may-be-most-pro-life-ever-condemning-abortion-and-planned-parenthood/>

☞ Memorial Gift ☞

Mary Jo Zkiab

in memory of

Father Walter Smigiel

~~~~~

Our thanks & blessings

## PPCFL Officers and Advisors

President – Matt Niedzielski  
Vice President – Julie Bailey  
Secretary – Bernadette Johnston  
Treasurer – John Combs  
At-Large – Ann Burger  
Development – Jack Johnston  
Newsletter – Holly Coco

Email: [contact@ppccitizensforlife.org](mailto:contact@ppccitizensforlife.org)  
Website: [www.ppccitizensforlife.org](http://www.ppccitizensforlife.org)  
Phone: 719-630-1999  
Fax: 719-630-8880

*PPCFL Board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of  
each month at 7:00 p.m.  
Come and see what we do.*

## **We're an All-Volunteer Organization**

### **Join us as a volunteer!!**

Staff our office once a week.  
Assist with computer work.  
Become a PPCFL Church Contact.  
Assist with educational programs.  
Help staff our educational booths or assist  
in fundraising.  
Bring fresh ideas or "Chair" a project.  
The opportunities are never-ending.



Pikes Peak Citizens for Life posts daily stories of news and inspiration on Facebook. If you are not a Facebook "member" you can still access our page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pikes-Peak-Citizens-for-Life/117592004967788>

## **Newsletter Available by Email**

Would you prefer to receive your newsletter by email rather than traditional mail?

Sign up for "Pro-Life News" at  
[www.ppccitizensforlife.org](http://www.ppccitizensforlife.org)

## **The President's Corner**

Two safety provisions of a 2013 Texas law addressing abortion providers were rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court in a late June decision: the need to meet ambulatory surgical center standards and admission privileges for abortionists at a hospital within 30 miles.

Justice Stephen Breyer, in his majority opinion, stated that "neither of these provisions offers medical benefits sufficient to justify the burdens upon access that each imposes."

John Eastman, director of the Center for Constitutional Jurisprudence, noted: "***These were relatively modest regulations, and they apply to many other hospital and medical facilities. But if you want to have an abortion, no rules apply.***"\*

No rules apply! Other surgical centers must meet the regulations, but not abortion facilities. I reiterate what I stated in my June newsletter column: "***For abortion supporters, it is the abortionist that must be protected, not the woman.***"

Here is the real war on women. Women must be made aware of the following fact: their well-being is not a concern of their government or of the abortion industry. So, when women walk into an abortion facility, they are risking their health and possibly their lives (recall Kermit Gosnell).

*Matt*

## **Court Ruling Threatens Similar Pro-Life Laws**

On June 27 - in a 5-3 ruling in *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* - the U.S. Supreme Court overturned two parts of a 2013 Texas law that required abortion facilities to meet the same standards that apply to other ambulatory surgical facilities.

The ruling dealt a serious blow to pro-life legislators and activists, who are concerned that similar statutes are at risk in Michigan, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Kansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

According to Pro-Life Representative Chris Smith, R-N.J. "*It will make it harder for laws or policies that protect mothers or babies to survive a constitutional challenge.*"

"*The decision erodes states' lawmaking authority to safeguard the health and safety of women and subjects more innocent life to being lost,*" Texas Gov. Greg Abbott said in a statement. "*Texas' goal is to protect innocent life, while ensuring the highest health and safety standards for women.*"

Gosnell Connection - The Texas law was part of an effort by many states to tighten regulations governing abortion providers, in the wake of the gruesome revelations and eventual murder conviction of notorious Philadelphia abortionist Kermit Gosnell.

\*Ref: National Catholic Register, Joan Frawley Dsesmond, "US Supreme Court... 06 July  
<http://www.ncregister.com/site/article/us-supreme-courts-abortion-ruling-threatens-similar-laws/>

## No One Should be Forced to Participate in the Killing of a Fellow Human Being

National Right to Life is closely monitoring congress' efforts to protect the conscience rights of medical workers. According to Carol Tobias, NRL President:

*"A long-standing federal law known as the Weldon Amendment exists to guarantee that health care entities don't have to be involved in abortions in any way if they choose not to.*

*But the Obama Administration is arrogantly refusing to enforce that law. They are allowing some states to force employers and their insurance plans to include abortion in health insurance policies against their will!*

*In some parts of the country, the effects of the Obama Administration's extra-legal gutting of the Weldon Amendment means that employers such as churches and religious schools are told they must buy health insurance plans for their employees that include abortion.*

*That is against the law – but pro-abortion bureaucrats have issued "interpretations" of that law that completely gut the law they are supposed to enforce!"*

In an effort to give citizens additional protection against participating in abortions, Pro-life members of Congress have introduced the "Conscience Protection Act of 2016" to eliminate state abortion mandates.

Ref: RTL News Today, Carol Tobias, "No One.." 11 Jul 2016

<http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/news/2016/07/no-one-who-believes-abortion-is-wrong-should-ever-be-forced-to-participate-in-the-killing-of-a-fellow-human-being/#.V4W1lqrMXc>



### A "Fair" Time to Witness to Life

Friday, August 26 to Labor Day, Monday, September 5

For more than two decades, Pro-Life Witnesses from Southern Colorado and the Pikes Peak region have joined efforts to staff the **Prolife Booth at the Colorado State Fair** in Pueblo.

**Come visit our booth... or help volunteer!** We typically rotate volunteers through three shifts each day for the 11 days which vary depending on the day of the week.

**The State Fair is a tremendously important place to reach out to the general public with prolife information that they might otherwise never receive.**

If you are able to help staff a shift, please contact us: (719) 630- 1999, or [contact@ppcitizensforlife.org](mailto:contact@ppcitizensforlife.org)

*Thanks so much!! Your participation will indeed be a blessing!*



## DECLINE TO SIGN for Assisted Suicide

In order for Assisted Death initiatives to get onto Colorado's November ballot, supporters must collect valid signatures.

Be reminded, signature gatherers – many of whom are paid to get as many signatures as possible – will be out in force throughout much of the summer, and many **mislead the public about the details of these "assisted death" petitions, using words such as "compassion" and "choice".**

**Remind your friends and neighbors: DO NOT SIGN any petition for assisted death.**



### Schedule a Pro-Life Presentation: *Adoption*

PPCFL offers prolife presentations and discussion forums on a wide variety of topics which we have been featuring in *LifeLine* over the past few months.

**Adoption – What a beautiful Option!** is a presentation that shares the touching story of one family's adoption journey and the incredible gifts – both given and received – through the process.

If your group would enjoy this inspiring story of hope, please contact Jack or Bernadette at 719-630-1999.

Pikes Peak Citizens for Life

*LifeLine*

707R North Nevada Ave  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

August 2016 Vol. 10, No. 8

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Permit No. 896



## COMING SOON...

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Red Rose Run Sunday September 25

This afternoon event will be at St. Mary's High School's Grace Center (near Union and Acacia Dr.)

It includes a 5K run/walk, carnival games for kids, a mini-fair featuring pro-life organizations, a pro-life band, and food provided by various groups and local food trucks.

For specific times and details, please contact [Simmonsmjm@aol.com](mailto:Simmonsmjm@aol.com) or (719)-226-2690.

### LIFE CHAIN 2016

Sunday October 2; 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Colorado Springs and Monument

If you can **help organize your friends, or a church or community group**, please call PPCFL at (719) 630-1999. Or email Linda Kracht at [newlifeinhim.jesus@gmail.com](mailto:newlifeinhim.jesus@gmail.com).

## "Roses for Life" Needs Your HELP!



The red rose is the International symbol for LIFE. Pikes Peak Citizens for Life is an all-volunteer organization with the mission of keeping the pro-life message alive in our community!

**Every October - during "Respect Life Month" - we sponsor *Roses for Life* - to bring the message of life to congregations city-wide. It is also our main fundraiser for the year.**

Jack and Bernadette Johnson have been chairing the "Roses for Life" project for the past 10 years and are ready to turn this critical program over to a generous person or persons.

They would like to mentor and train the new program chairs this year - so **it is very important that we find someone soon in preparation for this fall's campaign.**

If you and/or a friend can **share your Love of LIFE through Loving ROSES**, please contact Pikes Peak Citizens for Life at (719) 630-1999 or [contact@ppcitizensforlife.org](mailto:contact@ppcitizensforlife.org).