



PROTECT THE HYDE AMENDMENT

Prevent Taxpayer Dollars from Supporting Elective Abortions

BACKGROUND:

Beginning in 1976, members of Congress and the White House have consistently supported the Hyde Amendment, a federal policy which has prevented taxpayer dollars from paying for elective abortions. This language has been approved every year since then, regardless of which political party has been in control of Congress or the presidency. In addition to wide legislative support, the general public is highly favorable of the Hyde Amendment and similar provisions. Many public opinion surveys demonstrate that a strong majority of individuals—including those of different income levels, races, and positions regarding abortion—in the country oppose using tax dollars to pay for abortion.¹

Despite public opinion, pro-abortion groups and certain elected officials are campaigning to rescind the Hyde Amendment and to instead implement a policy that would require every federal health program to cover, and every federal health facility to provide, elective abortions. If adopted, the new policy would go as far as to nullify state and local policies against abortion coverage, rescinding the compromise policy agreed to by President Obama and Congressional Democrats in the Affordable Care Act of 2010.²

The stakes are high, as the Hyde Amendment saves the lives of mothers and children and respects the consciences of the American people. It is estimated that over 2.4 million children are alive now due to the Hyde Amendment.³ If Hyde and similar measures are not approved in this year's appropriations process, *billions* of taxpayer dollars could start being used for elective abortions in this country.

THE TIME FOR ACTION IS NOW. Congress is considering the annual budget legislation which have consistently included the Hyde Amendment and similar amendments. It is imperative that federal lawmakers hear from **YOU** by **the first week of June to stop tax dollars from paying for abortion.**

ACTION NEEDED:

Visit www.NoTaxpayerAbortion.com by the first week of June and tell Congress to retain the Hyde Amendment and similar provisions in this year's budget bills. Then urge a friend to do the same.

FURTHER RESOURCES:

1. Sign the petition at www.NoTaxpayersAbortion.com.
2. Find flyers and graphics for promotion of petition www.respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion.
3. Find fact sheets on the Hyde Amendment at www.usccb.org/prolife/abortion.
4. Visit www.micatholic.org in early June to find links to Michigan Catholic Conference's social media pages and share content promoting the petition.

¹ "Stop Your Taxes from Paying for Abortion," No Taxpayer Abortion, accessed 5/4/21, www.notaxpayerabortion.com/learn.

² "Answers to Common Attacks Against the Hyde Amendment," USCCB, accessed 5/4/21: <https://bit.ly/3h0KGIL>.

³ "Hyde Amendment Backgrounder," USCCB, accessed 5/4/21: <https://bit.ly/3vF8tMj>."