



Project Life and Liberty

To Preserve our Most Basic Rights

“The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time,”

said Thomas Jefferson, two years before he wrote the Declaration of Independence. He and the other founders of our Nation grasped a profound truth when they listed our God-given inalienable rights as “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” Life is our most basic right, the condition for all others – no other right is secure if our very lives can be taken from us. Freedom of conscience, culminating in the right to worship and serve God, is the highest fulfillment of our God-given human nature, for without it we cannot freely return God’s love and serve our brothers and sisters who need our help and protection.

When government attacks religious freedom – especially when it attacks our freedom to respect and revere life at its most defenseless – the fabric of our society is placed at risk.

Yet this is what state and federal governmental bodies have done in recent months, demanding new action by the Catholic community. Among the recent disturbing developments:

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has demanded that almost every man and woman in America, as well as many religious institutions that help the needy, may not provide or purchase health coverage unless that coverage includes a wide array of sterilization and “contraceptive” methods, including drugs that can induce abortion.
- After the Catholic Church’s migration and refugee services office had provided excellent service to victims of human trafficking for five years, HHS took away its federal grant and gave it to less qualified secular agencies because the Catholic agency would not violate its moral principles on early human life.
- Some state government officials have tried to make Catholic organizations include coverage for abortions in health plans for their employees, or help provide abortions and sterilizations in order to participate fully in our health care system.

Longstanding federal laws known as “conscience clauses” should be preventing such abuses. But government officials have found ways to ignore these laws or exploit loopholes in them to suppress freedom of conscience in health care. In 2013 the new Congress must address this crisis.

Federal lawmakers may act to maintain and improve current protections for life and liberty – or they may mandate expanded taxpayer funding for the destruction of unborn children, and allow these and other abuses against religious freedom to continue. It is important that concerned citizens express their views to their Senators and Representative as soon as possible.

Forty years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court created a “right” to choose abortion that has resulted in the death of millions of unborn children and has promoted a fundamental disrespect for life. Today those promoting the “right” to abortion manifest an intolerance toward those who would *choose* in favor of God’s gift of life. Americans who believe in the sacredness of life and the right of religious freedom need to raise their voices now.

Your voice is needed more than ever!

Congress should come together to respect life and religious freedom.

Government must not force Americans to violate their religious and moral beliefs on respect for life when they provide health care or sponsor or purchase health coverage. Your help is urgently needed!

Please take action today!

What You Can Do

- Sign a postcard
- Write a thoughtful letter
- Make a phone call
- Send an e-mail message
- Write a letter-to-the-editor to your local paper
- Call a radio talk show
- Speak at a public event
- Meet with your Representative and Senators
- Urge others to join you in these efforts



Where to Write

The Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable _____
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

President Barack Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500



Where to Call

U.S. Capitol switchboard: 202-224-3121.
Ask for the offices of your Representative and two Senators.

The White House: 202-456-1111.



Send an E-mail

To send e-mails to Capitol Hill in response to alerts, please visit the NCHLA Action Center at: nchla.org/action.asp.

To access the White House's e-mail form, see: www.whitehouse.gov/contact/submit-questions-and-comments.



For More Information

Please visit nchla.org and usccb.org/prolife.

National Committee for a Human Life Amendment
1500 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 24 • Washington, DC 20005 • nchla.org • EndRoe.org