



June 2019

Pro-Life News

Maryland State Council
Knights of Columbus



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Maryland's KofC Ultrasound Program

In Maryland, the KofC has donated 23 ultrasound machines to Pregnancy Care Centers throughout the state. Several councils are working with other PCCs to raise funds and prepare applications to receive ultrasound units. *The State Ultrasound Program, however, needs additional funds to meet all requests.* Can your council help? For more information about the ultrasound program in Maryland or to make a donation, contact Lawrence Grayson at LPGrayson@verizon.net.

Blocking Federal Funds for Abortion

On May 22, 25 Republican senators requested that the Senate appropriations committee decline to advance any bills with language that would weaken or remove pro-life or pro-religious liberty measures currently in place. They cited the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy, which blocks funding to organizations that promote abortions, and the updated rule for Title X of the *Public Health Services Act*, which prohibits Title X money from going to clinics that perform abortions. Planned Parenthood is set to lose millions of dollars in federal funding due to this new rule.

Maryland Abortion Funding Now Law

Before the Maryland General Assembly adjourned for this year, it passed the *Family Planning Program Funding Bill* (SB904/HB1272) which prohibits the Maryland Department of Health from accepting Title X federal funding if it excludes abortion providers – which it does. The bill replaces these funds at the same level from the state budget, i.e., from state tax dollars. **Maryland Right to Life** estimates that as many as 50,000 Marylanders petitioned Governor Hogan to veto the bill. The governor took no action and the bill became law without his signature.

Where Do the Presidential Candidates Stand on Abortion

Joe Biden, former vice president, has endorsed repealing the Hyde amendment, a measure that prohibits federal funding of abortion except in cases of rape, incest, or when the mother's life is endangered.

Bernie Sanders, Vermont senator, wants a national law legalizing abortion up to birth.

Kamala Harris, California senator, wants states that have had pro-life laws struck down by the courts to obtain Justice Department approval before they can implement any new pro-life laws.

Elizabeth Warren, Massachusetts senator, announced a plan to legalize abortions for any reason up to birth and force taxpayers to pay for them.

Kirsten Gillibrand, New York senator, identifies herself as Catholic, but disagrees with the Church on abortion, LGBTQ issues, and an all-male priesthood.

Amy Klobuchar, Minnesota senator, would sign legislation codifying abortion rights supporting abortion up to birth.

Kamala Harris, California senator, wants states that have had pro-life laws struck down by the courts to obtain Justice Department approval before they can implement any new pro-life laws.

Pete Buttigieg, mayor of South Bend, described the killing of unborn babies as “an American freedom,” and does not want the government to restrict abortions in any way at any stage of development.

Cory Booker, New Jersey senator, has pledged to create a White House office exclusively dedicated to protecting so-called abortion “rights,” and would have a pro-*Roe v. Wade* litmus test for judicial nominees.

Beto O’Rourke, former Texas congressman, said a third-trimester abortion “should be a decision that the woman makes about her body.”

National Pro-Life Legislation Highlights

The proposed *Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act* mandates that infants who survive an abortion be given medical care equivalent to that provided to any other infant of the same gestation. Pro-abortion legislators in the U.S. Congress have blocked the bill from being considered 52 times – 50 in the House and twice in the Senate. Every senator who is running for president in 2020 voted to bar consideration of the bill.

The *Women’s Health Protection Act*, a bill that would make abortion on demand federal law and prohibit any state limits on abortions up to birth, was passed by the House of Representatives on May 23.

New York has the most permissive abortion law in the nation. Since January 22, abortion is allowed until birth and they can be performed by nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and midwives. On May 28, the Illinois House of Representatives passed an even more radical abortion bill.

Alabama put in the most pro-life law in the nation on May 23, banning virtually all abortions and making an abortionist face a possible prison term of up to 99 years.

Upcoming Events

June 1 –The **Respect Life Committee of St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Overlea** will show the film, “A Cold Day In Hell, The conversion of Norma McCorvey (the Jane Roe of Roe vs. Wade).” The movie is open to all and will take place in the parish Youth Room at 5:00 pm. For more information, contact Tina Bauman at 443-695-0103 or email tinab220@yahoo.com

June 15 – **Lifeguard** will be conducting a free sidewalk counseling training seminar from 1:00 to 3:30 pm, at Holy Name Catholic Church Annex (1125 Neal Street NE, Washington DC). Learn how you can save a baby’s life and save pregnant mothers from the horrors of abortion through effective counseling and prayers. The instructor is Dick Retta, who has over 20 years of experience counseling at several abortion centers. For more information, contact Tom Trunk (240-593-6982) or Missy Smith, (202 -88-4984).

June 21 – The **Center for Pregnancy Concerns’** 13th Annual Tee Off for Kids golf tournament, will be held at Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City. Foursomes are invited to enjoy a day of fun and support a good cause. For more information, contact gretchen@centerforpregnancyconcerns.org or call 443-834-6715.

September 8-14 -- The **St. Michael’s Respect Life Committee** is also sponsoring a pilgrimage to EWTN, Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, St Bernard Abbey and Ave Maria Grotto in Alabama. For further information and reservations, contact Tina Bauman at 443-695-0103 or email tinab220@yahoo.com

Cemeteries of the Innocents

As of June 1, there is one Cemetery of the Innocents standing in Maryland. It is at Immaculate Heart of Mary parish in Lexington Park (St. Mary’s County). Will your council host one? For more information or to schedule an installation, contact Jim McFillin at jimmcfillin@cs.com.

Cemetery of the Innocents Scorecard: Number Installed in 2019 – 2 Since 2004 – 331

“Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act” – Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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