



June 22, 2021

Dear Representative,

I write to advise you that Susan B. Anthony List, on behalf of our more than 900,000 members, strongly supports efforts to immediately consider H.R. 18, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2021. SBA List will score against the Previous Question so that H.R. 18 can be considered.

Now is the time for urgent action to defend against taxpayer funding for abortion. President Biden's budget made good on his campaign promise to incentivize abortion with taxpayer subsidies.¹ In lockstep with the abortion lobby, Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro has promised to override 40 years of federal policy by funding Medicaid abortions in the budget bill she puts before the House Appropriations Committee. In contrast, H.R. 18 would permanently prohibit such funding and solidify the longstanding status quo of keeping the federal government out of the business of funding abortion.

H.R. 18² prohibits federal funds from being spent on abortion by making permanent in federal law the Hyde Amendment and other abortion funding prohibitions covering all government spending. Congress has passed the Hyde Amendment every year since 1976, and the Supreme Court upheld Hyde³ in the 1980 *Harris v. McRae* decision.⁴ Research shows that the Hyde Amendment alone has saved more than 2.4 million lives.⁵ Although the Hyde Amendment protects American taxpayers from funding abortion, it only covers government funding appropriated through the annual Labor, Health, and Human Services appropriations bill. Like Hyde, other amendments provide abortion funding limits on several appropriation bills including Agriculture, Commerce Justice Science, Financial Services, and State and Foreign Operations. If

¹ The Hyde Amendment is visibly removed (bracketed) on pages 807-808: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/appendix_fy22.pdf

² H.R. 1 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/18/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22hr18%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=1>

³ The Hyde Amendment is Constitutional and Remains Critically Important: <https://lozierinstitute.org/the-hyde-amendment-is-constitutional-and-remains-critically-important/>

⁴ *Harris v. McRae*, 448 U.S. 297: <https://supreme.justia.com/cases/federal/us/448/297/>

⁵ Analyzing the Impact of the Hyde Amendment: <https://lozierinstitute.org/hyde-40-analyzing-the-impact-of-the-hyde-amendment-with-july-2020-addendum/>

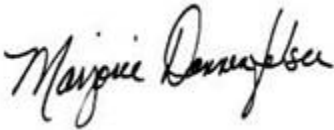
enacted, H.R. 18 would essentially replace the current patchwork of status quo, annually renewed appropriations amendments with one federal law.

The government-wide limitation on abortion funding in H.R. 18 would also include the premium assistance subsidies in the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), which currently help underwrite abortion coverage in 69% of the health insurance plans offered in states permitting elective abortion coverage through the exchanges.⁶ In addition, this legislation requires that information regarding abortion coverage, including an “abortion surcharge,” be prominently displayed for plan options in all exchanges.

A strong majority of Americans oppose taxpayer funding of abortion,⁷ and they deserve the confidence that these protections are not bartered as chips in annual appropriations negotiations or intentionally excluded in bills relating to health care. The Hyde Amendment and other Hyde-like restrictions must be applied throughout all government funding streams as a part of permanent law.

Susan B. Anthony List will score against the Previous Question in order to provide for the consideration of H.R. 18.

Sincerely,



Marjorie Dannenfelser
President
Susan B. Anthony List

⁶ Abortion in Obamacare, A Joint Project of the Family Research Council and the Charlotte Lozier Institute; 2021 Fact Sheet: <https://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF20L25.pdf>

⁷ Polling: Oppose Taxpayer Funding of Abortion <https://www.sba-list.org/polling#tax-funding>