

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

December 8, 2020

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, Education and Related
Agencies
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS, Education and Related
Agencies
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole,

Today I write on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of members and supporters of Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee (CWALAC) to appeal to this committee and the Congress for a renewed bipartisan commitment to the fundamental principle embodied by the Hyde Amendment: abortion is not health care, and it is not the answer to truly caring for women.

The title of today's hearing, "The Impact on Women Seeking an Abortion but are Denied Because of an Inability to Pay," is a sad reflection of the brazen attitude toward innocent human life being advanced by the majority party of the 116th Congress. At every turn, the Democrat-controlled U.S. House of Representatives has denied the fundamental impact to, and the care and protection of, vulnerable pre-born children. An innocent child, full of potential, is always part of the abortion equation. The impact to these lives cannot be ignored.

This hearing seeks to legitimize a narrative that abortion is the answer to empowering a pregnant woman facing economic burden or hardship. It asserts that the inability to pay for abortion is the biggest obstacle and detriment to her life. What about the life of her child? What about the physical scarring and emotional wounding that may follow her all the days of her life?

This hearing seeks to dismantle the long-standing (previously) bipartisan Hyde amendment that protects taxpayers from being forced to finance the killing of innocent human life, a value that any humane society should preserve.

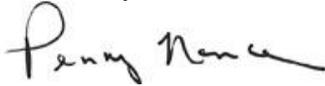
Since 1976, the Hyde Amendment, enacted annually through an appropriations provision, protects federal taxpayer dollars from being used to pay for abortion, except in the case of rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother. The Charlotte Lozier Institute has found that some 2.4 million lives have been saved because of the Hyde amendment, and one in nine children born to mother on Medicaid owes his or her life to Hyde.¹ We must codify and protect this life-saving provision.

¹ Addendum to Hyde @ 40: Analyzing the Impact of the Hyde Amendment, Michael J. New, PhD, July 21, 2020, available at <https://lozierinstitute.org/addendum-to-hyde-40-analyzing-the-impact-of-the-hyde-amendment/>

Regardless of what the Democrat party thinks, women are not a monolithic, single-minded block of people who hold the same views. In fact, annual polls show a strong majority of Americans, men and women alike, oppose taxpayer-funding of abortion.² Six in 10 Americans (60%) oppose tax dollars paying for abortion domestically, which is what the Hyde Amendment assures at the federal level. This includes 89% of those who identify as pro-life, and 37% of those who identify as pro-choice. This is not a partisan issue for the American people.

As you hold this hearing today and debate these issues in the upcoming Congress, CWALAC is committed to representing the voices of millions of women who proudly stand for the sanctity of life and the intrinsic value of every human being created in the image of God, inside and outside the womb. We will not be ignored.

Sincerely,



Penny Nance
CEO & President
Concerned Women for America LAC

² Marist Poll, Americans' Opinions on Abortion, January 2020, available at <https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/news-room/polls/americans-opinions-abortion.pdf>