



Diocese of Springfield
Office of the Bishop

May 25, 2021

Dear Father:

Your voice could help save millions of lives.

The Hyde Amendment has protected Americans from funding abortion for 45 years. It's credited with saving the lives of over **2.4 million children** to date.

Now, powerful members of Congress want to take away this law that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century. Without it, *billions* of taxpayer dollars could go to abortion.

That means abortions would be *cheaper, easier, and funded* with our taxpayer dollars.

As Pope Francis has said, "The future of humanity ... is fundamentally in the hands of peoples and in their ability to organize."

It is **critically important** for Catholics to send a *strong* message before Congress moves forward to impose taxpayer-funded abortion. Because of the *incredibly high stakes* Congress needs to hear from a *massive* number of people.

I invite the people of your parish to join our diocesan response to this nationwide effort by the USCCB, set for the **first week of June**.

The primary goal is for *millions of Catholics* to sign the petition on NoTaxpayerAbortion.com.

The USCCB has created **easy, ready-to-use tools** that can be found at respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion.

These include a sample announcement, graphics, flyer, and infographic. More tools continue to be added as they become available, so be sure to check back.

Additionally, the USCCB is hosting a webinar that will give more information on the push for tax dollars to pay for abortion and what Catholics can do to stop it. Anyone interested can register at respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William D. Byrne".

Most Reverend William D. Byrne
Bishop of Springfield

PS: Please consider including this announcement in your parish bulletin and other communications: *Stop your tax dollars from going to abortion.* NoTaxpayerAbortion.com