



Background: Anti-Choice 2018 Candidates

This memo outlines background information NARAL Pro-Choice America's research team has gathered on anti-choice House, Senate and gubernatorial candidates running in the 2018 election. In particular, this information highlights the high number of conservative candidates who take extreme anti-choice positions, such as supporting abortion bans while opposing exceptions for survivors of rape, incest or to protect a woman's life. The information in this memo is not reflective of the candidates' complete record. This memo is based solely on publicly accessible information.

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House Candidates

Rep. Don Bacon (NE-02)

Don Bacon believed abortion should not be legal under any circumstances, including to save women's lives and in cases of rape and incest. On the Nebraska Right to Life 2016 candidate survey, Bacon responded to the question "under what circumstances, if any, do you believe abortion should be legal?" with "in no case." In response to this question, Bacon also indicated he did not support legal abortion "in cases of rape and incest" or to save women's lives. Nebraska Right to Life noted that Bacon had "comments on file" regarding his opposition to any legal abortion and his opposition to abortion to save the life of women, though they did not report the comments. [Nebraska Right to Life 2016 General Election Voter Guide, accessed [5/10/18](#); bullet this out more for other hits (non LRI)]

Bacon pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Bacon responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Bacon pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Bacon answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bacon pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Bacon responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bacon pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Bacon responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bacon pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Bacon answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bacon co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. Bacon additionally praised the bill, writing on Facebook that he was “I am extremely proud to play a role in the fight for the unborn” by supporting this bill. In a press release in support of H.R. 490, Bacon said, “I will work tirelessly to advance the rights of the unborn to ensure a culture of life throughout our great nation.” Bacon also tweeted his support of H.R. 490. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18, Rep. Don Bacon press release, [1/24/17](#), Facebook, [1/25/17](#); Twitter, [1/24/17](#)]

Rep. Andy Barr (KY-6)

Barr opposed rape and incest exceptions to abortion bans, only supporting exceptions for the life of the woman. Kentucky.com reported, “After days of refusing to answer a question about when abortion should be legal, Republican Andy Barr acknowledged Thursday that he believes the practice is acceptable only when the life of a mother is in danger. After a campaign rally in Frankfort, Barr was reminded that he told the Herald-Leader in 2010 that there should be only one exception to a ban on abortion. **“Other than when the life of the mother is at stake, I believe Congress should do all that it**



can to protect the life of every human being — born or unborn," Barr answered in a Herald-Leader questionnaire two years ago. The newspaper specifically asked, "In what instances do you think abortion should be legal?" On Thursday, Barr said his stance has not changed on the issue since 2010, when the Lexington attorney lost to Democratic U.S. Rep. Ben Chandler by 648 votes. "No, I haven't changed my mind since 2010," he said. " In 2012 The Richmond Register reported, "For a time, Barr refused to answer questions about whether he makes any exception to his opposition to abortion. Ultimately, **Barr said he had only one exception – the life of the mother, excluding rape and incest.**" [Kentucky.com, [11/01/12](#); The Richmond Register, 11/9/12, via Nexis]

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Barr pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Barr responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Barr pledged to support federal legislation "giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter" with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Barr answered yes to the question "Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

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Barr pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning "at the moment of conception." On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Barr answered yes to the question, "Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, "the difficult question of when life begins?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Barr expressed his support for a federal ban on the distribution of ella, a form of emergency contraception, and other medications referred to as “home abortion drugs.” On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Barr answered yes to the question, “Should the federal government bar the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486 and “ella?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Mike Bishop (MI-08)

Bishop pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Bishop responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

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Right to Life of Michigan Endorsed Bishop In The 2016 Election. Right to Life of Michigan will only endorse candidates who are “Prolife - First and foremost, a candidate must be prolife with no exceptions other than life of the mother. A candidate must also complete a Candidate Questionnaire based on the elected office the candidate is seeking.” [Right to Life of Michigan-PAC 2016 Primary Endorsements, accessed [5/11/18](#), Right to Life of Michigan endorsement criteria, accessed [5/11/18](#)]

Rep. Rod Blum (IA-01)

Blum pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Blum responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

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Rod Blum Described Himself As “Pro-Life” And Supported An “Incremental Process” To Ban Abortion. Blum said in a 2013 interview with Caffeinated Thoughts, a “Christian Conservative” outlet, that he was “pro-life from conception to the cradle to the grave. And when I talk about pro-life on the campaign trail, I also mention that it’s more than the protection of the unborn, it’s the protection of the born, and by that I mean our elderly.” Caffeinated Thoughts asked, “In terms of bills outside of a personhood amendment or a personhood bill, would you be supportive of other pro-life legislation that moves the ball forward toward that goal?” Blum replied, “Yes. I think this is going to be an incremental process, as we go back to negotiation and the nature of government, so yes, incrementally, I think we need to keep trying to push that football toward our goal.” [VIDEO: Caffeinated Thoughts, [10/10/13](#), via YouTube, *starts 11:20*]

Rod Blum Attended The March for Life In 2017. He tweeted a photo on his official congressional Twitter account saying, “Thanks to all, especially the young people from #IA01 who came to stand up for the rights of the unborn in DC at #MarchforLife.” [Twitter, [1/27/17](#)]



Congressman Rod Blum 
@RepRodBlum

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Thanks to all, especially the young people from [#IA01](#) who came to stand up for the rights of the unborn in DC at [#MarchforLife](#)



4:42 PM - 27 Jan 2017

Blum Attended The DBQ Right to Life Dinner In 2015. Blum tweeted a picture of the event and write, “tremendous turnout tonight at DBQ Right to Life dinner! [#chooselife](#)” [Twitter, [5/1/15](#)]



Rod Blum @RodBlum · 1 May 2015

Tremendous turnout tonight at DBQ **Right to Life** dinner! [#chooselife](#)



Rod Blum Received A 100% Rating From National Right To Life In 2015 And 2016. Since taking office, Blum has voted with National Right to Life on 100 percent of their scored votes. When Blum became Iowa Right to Life’s 2000th Twitter follower, Iowa Right to Life tweeted at him “We appreciate you

and your stand for all life, born and unborn!” Blum replied, thanks for all you do!” Blum also met with members of Dubuque Right to Life before the 2015 March for Life. [VoteSmart, accessed [10/19/17](#), National Right to Life, accessed [2/22/18](#), Twitter, [1/23/15](#), Twitter, 1/22/15]



Rod Blum Has Received At Least \$14,000 From Anti-Choice, Anti-LGBTQ Groups For His 2014 And 2016 Campaigns. In his 2014 campaign, Blum received \$5,000 from the National Pro-Life Alliance and \$3,000 from the Family Research Council. In his 2016 campaign, Blum received \$5,000 from the National Pro-Life Alliance and \$1,000 from Susan B. Anthony List. [FEC, [9/8/14](#), FEC, [10/27/14](#), FEC, [8/30/14](#), FEC, [10/15/14](#), FEC, [8/2/16](#), FEC, [10/11/16](#), FEC, [9/26/16](#)]

Anti-Choice Groups Spent At Least \$18,809 On Rod Blum’s Behalf Throughout All Of His Elections. For his 2014 campaign, the National Right to Life Political Action Committee spent \$15,566.77, the National Right to Life Victory Fund spent \$1,737.90, and the Faith Family Freedom Fund, Family Research Council’s super PAC, spent \$1,019 in individual expenditures. For his 2016 campaign, the National Right to Life Victory Fund spent \$262.28 and the National Right to Life PAC spent \$223.32 in individual expenditures. [FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#), FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#), FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#), FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#), FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#)]



In 2015, Rod Blum Co-Sponsored And Voted For The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, Which Would Ban Abortion After 20 Weeks. In reference to the bill, Blum stated, “As the father of five children, I understand the precious joy children bring to the world. I firmly believe it is my responsibility to protect the sanctity of life and to help those who cannot assist themselves...I cannot imagine why the opponents to this bill support permitting abortionists to inflict pain on an unborn baby who has the ability to feel.” [Press release from the office of Rep. Rod Blum, 5/15/15, via Nexis]

Blum Voted Against Adding Exceptions To The 2015 20-Week Ban That Would Have Allowed Abortions In Cases To Protect The “Short-Or- Long-Term Health” Of Women. The Gazette wrote, “Voting 181 for and 246 against, the House on Wednesday defeated a Democratic attempt to add a broad health exemption to HR 36 (above), enabling women to legally have an abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy if it is necessary to protect their short- or long-term health. This went beyond the underlying bill’s narrowly drawn exemptions for instances of rape and incest or to save the life of the mother. A yes vote backed the motion, which, had it prevailed, would have immediately amended the bill.” [The Gazette, 5/17/15 via Nexis]

Rod Blum Voted For The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act. The bill imposed penalties of up to five years in prison if healthcare providers “failed to immediately transport to a hospital an infant with certain of life after an abortion attempt.” In response to this bill, Blum said “We must ensure that children born alive during abortions receive equivalent medical treatment as babies who are born in hospitals... And common sense dictates that your tax dollars should not go to Planned Parenthood as Congress investigates their selling of babies’ organs -- that money should be directed to other providers of women’s health services like community health centers.” [The Gazette, 9/20/15 via Nexis, Waterloo Courier, 9/19/15, via Nexis]

Rod Blum Voted For The No Taxpayer Funding For Abortion Act Twice. The 2017 bill “makes permanent the prohibition on the use of federal funds, including funds in the budget of the District of Columbia, for abortion or health coverage that includes abortion.” [Congress.gov, [1/22/15](#), HR 7 final vote results for roll call 45, [1/22/15](#), Congress.gov, [1/13/17](#), HR7 final vote results for roll call 65, [1/24/17](#)]

Rod Blum Voted For The Conscience Protection Act of 2016 And Against The Zika Exception To The Bill. The Gazette wrote “Voting 245 for and 182 against, the House on Wednesday passed a bill (S 304) that would make it legal for employers, medical personnel and other parties to impede women’s access to abortions on the basis of religious beliefs or moral convictions. Employers, for example, could cite religious objections to justify their refusal to allow company health plans to cover employees’ abortions. The bill establishes a right to file civil lawsuits to uphold conscience-based objections to abortion.” Congressional Quarterly wrote, “Opponents of the measure say it would block access to health care services for women, arguing it is not appropriate for institutions to claim a “conscience” exemption and to refuse to provide women with medically necessary information and referrals.” Blum also voted against a Zika exception to this bill, which would have stopped the Conscience Protection Act “from applying to reproductive care that helps pregnant women prepare for or respond to the Zika virus.” [Congress.gov, accessed [10/24/17](#), S304 final vote results for roll call 443, [7/13/16](#), The Gazette, 7/17/16, via Nexis, Congressional Quarterly’s House Action Reports, 7/8/16, via Nexis]



Rod Blum Has Voted To Defund Planned Parenthood Multiple Times. According to EMILY's List, Blum voted to defund Planned Parenthood four times in 2015 and once more in 2016. Blum's vote for the American Health Care Act would have also defunded Planned Parenthood. [Emily's List Press Release, 1/16/16, via Nexis, Government Publishing Office, [6/7/17](#)]

In Response To His Votes To Defund Planned Parenthood, Blum Said "Common Sense Dictates That Your Tax Dollars Should Not Go To Planned Parenthood As Congress Investigates Their Selling Of Babies' Organs." According to the Waterloo Courier, Blum stated, "Common sense dictates that your tax dollars should not go to Planned Parenthood as Congress investigates their selling of babies' organs – that money should be directed to other providers of women's health services like community health centers." [Waterloo Courier, [9/19/15](#)]

Rod Blum Voted To Allow States To Deny Medicaid Funding To Planned Parenthood. The Gazette wrote, "the House on Tuesday passed a GOP-drafted bill (HR 3495) allowing states to deny Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood and other medical providers, including doctors, in response to their abortion services. This would repeal a requirement in law that Medicaid patients be allowed to receive care from any qualified provider of their choice. Critics said the bill's denying Medicaid reimbursements to selected doctors and clinics would take away this right of free choice. Under Roe v. Wade, abortion is legal with certain exceptions, and under the Hyde Amendment, federal funds cannot be used to pay for it. This bill is a reaction to the recent release of secretly recorded videos in which Planned Parenthood officials discuss the provision of fetal tissue to medical research." [The Gazette, 10/4/15 via Nexis]

Rod Blum Voted To Deny Planned Parenthood Family Planning Funding Through Title X. The Gazette wrote, "The House on Wednesday nullified, 230 for and 188 against, a rule affirming Planned Parenthood's eligibility to receive Title X money for family planning. Some states have tried to deny the funding because abortions are provided. Critics noted that Planned Parenthood does not use federal funds for abortion services." [The Gazette, 2/19/17 via Nexis]

Rod Blum Voted To Establish A Select House Committee To Investigate Planned Parenthood In Response To Center For Medical Progress's Videos. He signed a letter to Attorney General Loretta Lynch asking the Justice Department to investigate Planned Parenthood. [The Gazette, 10/11/15 via Nexis, U.S. Congressman Marsha Blackburn, [7/27/15](#)]

Rod Blum Voted to Fund A Special House Committee Investigating "Any Nefarious Associations" Between Abortions And Fetal-Tissue Research. The vote would add \$800,000 to the budget of the Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives. [The Gazette, 12/4/16, via Nexis]

Rod Blum Questioned Cecile Richards At A Congressional Hearing Concerning The Leaked Planned Parenthood Footage, Focusing On Funding For Abortions. Blum asked Richards, "Do your providers make money on abortion services ... your individual affiliated offices, do they make money providing abortions?" Blum also asked, "Are you saying today, with 100 percent surety, that not one dime of taxpayer money is used to provide abortions? I mean, yes or no, 100 percent surety, because that is against the law." According to the Waterloo Courier, "Blum noted both Richards and himself have served as chief executives for public companies and questioned her understanding of overhead. He asked



whether salaries and other costs, particularly those that go to abortion services, are covered by taxpayers." He also asked "about the cost of providing an abortion." [Waterloo Courier, [10/30/15](#)]

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Blum Has Opposed Protections For Women In The Workplace And For Victims Of Domestic Violence And Sexual Assault

Blum Voted For And Co-Sponsored A Bill That Allowed Discrimination Against LGBTQ People, Unmarried Pregnant Women, And Unmarried People Who Have Sex. The First Amendment Defense Act "would have kept the government from penalizing people or businesses for acting in accordance with their religious beliefs that marriage is between one man and one woman." The bill also prohibited discrimination against those acting on their beliefs that "sexual relations are properly reserved to such a marriage." According to the Gazette, "the language was general enough the American Civil Liberties Union said it could allow employers to discriminate against single mothers or anyone who has sex outside of marriage." [Iowa Democratic Party Press Release, 7/21/15 via Nexis, Congress.gov, accessed [2/22/18](#), The Gazette, 11/6/16, via Nexis, The Gazette, 10/29/16, via Nexis]

Blum Defended The Bill By Saying "That's What The Bill Is About, Just Churches."

According to the Courier, Blum defended the bill by saying "'Once again, just churches. I can't say that enough. That's what the bill is about, just churches...I think your average person across America would agree that churches shouldn't have to violate their own principles.'" [The Courier, [7/24/15](#)]

The Gazette Gave This Claim An "F" Rating. The Gazette stated, "Blum's spokesman explained need and intent, but that doesn't trump what the bill clearly states: protection for corporations and "for profit" entities, which include businesses. If the bill is redrafted, Blum may wind up being correct, but at this point, he is not. The language of the bill is what counts. Fact Checker scores this an F." [The Gazette, [8/3/15](#)]

Rod Blum "Said He Had No Opinion" On Paid Maternity Leave. [Huffington Post, [9/13/16](#)]

Blum Believed Existing Law Adequately Protected Equal Pay: "I Believe That Right Is Protected By The Law In The 1963 Equal Pay Act." When asked "Would you please give us a specific example of something you have done or that you will do to help close that gap for women on the wage issue?" in a 2014 congressional debate, Blum responded, "I absolutely agree that women should make the same amount as men that have equal experience and are doing the same job. I believe that right is protected by the law in the 1963 Equal Pay Act that has already been passed, it's already a law on our books. An



example would be, at our company, we don't look at gender obviously when we hire a person, we're looking to hire the absolute best person that we can for the job that's in front of us." [VIDEO: YouTube, [10/21/14](#), Des Moines Register, [10/18/14](#)]

Rod Blum Voted Against A Bill That Would Protect “The Medical Privacy of Women, Including Rape And Incest Victims, With Respect To Their Choice Or Use Of Health Insurance Policies.” The bill would have amended HR7, which “would ban taxpayer-subsidized insurance policies that cover abortion from the Affordable Care Act’s state and federal marketplaces” to protect women’s medical privacy. As the Gazette reported, “Supporters of the motion said privacy issues could arise as insurance companies seek to document a woman’s claim of eligibility for taxpayer-funded abortion coverage as a result of being raped. The Hyde Amendment bars federal funding of abortions except in cases of rape or incest or if the procedure is necessary to save the mother’s life.” Blum did vote for HR7. [The Gazette, 1/25/15, via Nexis]

Rod Blum Voted Against A Motion That Would Protect Gender Discrimination By Insurance Companies And Applied “Anti-Abortion Provisions” To Any ACA Replacement. The Gazette wrote, “the House on Tuesday defeated a Democratic motion that sought to ensure that HR 7 (above) would not result in women paying higher premiums than men for the same policies in ACA marketplaces. Under an ACA provision that took effect in 2014, insurance companies are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of policyholders’ gender or health status. The anti-abortion provisions of the underlying bill would apply to any law that replaces the Affordable Care Act.” [The Gazette, 1/29/17, via Nexis]

Blum Voted To Overturn A D.C. Law Banning Employer Discrimination Against Employees Based On Their Reproductive Health Care Decisions. The Gazette wrote, “The House on Thursday passed, 228 for and 192 against, a measure (HJ Res 43) to kill a District of Columbia law making it illegal for employers to discriminate against workers on the basis of their decisions on reproductive health care. Although D.C. has had limited home rule since 1973, Congress under the Constitution has ultimate legislative authority over the federal city.” [The Gazette, 5/3/15, via Nexis]

Blum Voted Against The Consideration Of The Paycheck Fairness Act Twice. The bill would “protect workers from retaliation for sharing information about their wages, require employers to explain any pay disparities among workers performing the same job, and allow employees to seek unlimited punitive damages in wage bias cases.” [EMILY’s List, [9/14/16](#)]

Rod Blum Has Voted Against Measures That Would Protect Victims Of Domestic Violence And Sexual Assault. Blum voted against a motion which would exempt HR50 from “from interfering with federal regulations designed to prevent sex offenses against minors, domestic violence, rape and sexual assault or that enable schools to conduct criminal background checks on prospective employees.” HR50, which Blum did vote for, would “would expand a 1995 law designed to prevent U.S. departments and agencies from putting “unfunded mandates” on state, local and tribal governments or the private sector.” Blum also voted against an amendment to a sanctuary cities bill that would “block any funding cuts under HR 3009 (above) that would reduce a city’s deployment of police on the beat or raise its crime rate with respect to domestic violence, sex crimes or crimes against.” [The Gazette, 2/8/15, via Nexis, The Gazette, 7/26/15 via Nexis]



Rod Blum Opposed The Affordable Care Act And Called For Removing “Some Of These Crazy Regulations... Such As A 62-Year Old Male Having To Have Pregnancy Insurance.”

Rod Blum Said In A Town Hall The Government Should “Get Rid Of Some Of These Crazy Regulations That Obamacare Puts In, Such As A 62-Year-Old Male Having To Have Pregnancy Insurance.” [Telegraph Herald, 5/12/17, via Nexis, Alice Echo-News Journal, 5/23/17, via Nexis, **Video:** The Washington Post, [5/15/17](#)]

A Letter To The Editor Criticizing Blum’s Comment Went “Viral.” The letter in the Telegraph Herald said ““Congressman Rod Blum in a Dubuque town hall (Monday) night asked, “Why should a 62-year-old man have to pay for maternity care?” I ask, why should I pay for a bridge I don’t cross, a sidewalk I don’t walk on, a library book I don’t read? Why should I pay for a flower I won’t smell, a park I don’t visit, or art I can’t appreciate? Why should I pay the salaries of politicians I didn’t vote for, a tax cut that doesn’t affect me, or a loophole I can’t take advantage of? It’s called democracy, a civil society, the greater good. That’s what we pay for.” [Telegraph Herald, 5/16/17, via Nexis, Telegraph Herald, 5/12/17, via Nexis]

Rod Blum Voted To Repeal The Affordable Care Act With No Replacement. [The Gazette, 2/8/15 via Nexis]

Rod Blum Voted For The American Health Care Act. If enacted into law, the bill would waive the Affordable Care Act requirement that mandated that plans cover pre-existing conditions, add 24 million uninsured Americans by 2026, cut the Medicaid expansion and defund Planned Parenthood. [The Gazette, 5/7/17 via Nexis]

Blum Voted Against Protections For LGBTQ People

Rod Blum Voted Against A Ban On Federal Contractors Discriminating Against LGBTQ Employees. This was added as an amendment to an appropriations bill and denied affirmation of President Obama’s executive order protecting LGBT employees that are employed by companies with federal contracts. [The Gazette, 5/29/16 via Nexis]

Rod Blum Had A 0% Rating From The Human Rights Campaign. [Human Rights Campaign, Congressional Scorecard, 114th Congress, accessed [2/22/18](#)]

When Blum Campaigned With Bobby Jindal, The Iowa Democratic Party Called Them The Discrimination Duo. In a press release, the Iowa Democratic Party compared Blum to Jindal, stating, “Just like Rod Blum, Bobby Jindal has been a champion of a divisive and discriminatory policy this year. In Louisiana, Jindal led the charge to pass the Louisiana Marriage and Conscience Act through the state legislature. The Marriage and Conscience Act, an offshoot of the contentious bills passed in Indiana and Arkansas, explicitly enables businesses to discriminate against LGBT Americans by denying services to customers or benefits to employees based on their opposition to same sex marriage.” [Iowa Democratic Party Press Release, 9/3/15, via Nexis]



Blum Believed That Same-Sex Marriage Should Be Left To The States. On the show Caffeinated Thoughts, Blum said “As I often say, people ask me how I stand on that and I said well, I’m married to Karen, who happens to be a female, so obviously I believe in marriage between a man and a woman. Ultimately, I don’t think the government belongs in marriage, I think that’s between two people and their God and I would, I would like to see states, I’d like to, it would be a state issue, rather than a federal issue. I’d like to see states vote on it and then not have an overactive and a zealous Supreme Court overruling the will of the people”. [Youtube, [10/10/13](#)]

Blum Is An Extremely Conservative Republican Representing A District That Leans Democratic
Rod Blum Is A Conservative Member Of The Freedom Caucus, Though He Represents A Moderate District. Blum’s district has a Cook Partisan Voting Index (PVI) of D+1 and FiveThirtyEight calculated that the representative of this district should vote with Trump 73.5% of the time as of February 2018. However, Blum has voted with Trump 92.4% of the time as of February 2018. Blum has also received an endorsement from the Tea Party Express. Blum is a member of the conservative Freedom Caucus, which has “voted to shut down the government over funding Planned Parenthood” and pushed to cut TANF. Former Speaker of the House John Boehner described the Freedom Caucus as “anarchists.” [Pew Research Center, [10/20/15](#), Roll Call, [7/22/15](#), The Cook Political Report, [4/17/17](#), Tea Party Express, accessed [10/24/17](#), FiveThirtyEight, accessed [2/22/18](#), Congressman McClintock Press Release, [9/16/15](#), Vox, [6/30/17](#), Vanity Fair, [10/30/17](#)]

Extreme Conservative Groups Spent At Least \$6,913.34 Between All Of His Elections On Rod Blum’s Behalf. In 2014, the Tea Party Leadership Fund spent \$579.57 and Koch Industries Inc PAC spent \$1.33 in individual expenditures. In 2016, Club for Growth Action spent \$3,759.42 and Club for Growth PAC spent \$2,573.02 in individual expenditures. [FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#), FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#), FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#), FEC, accessed [11/28/17](#)]

Blum Tweeted Support For Donald Trump After The Electoral College Voted For Him. Blum tweeted “Amazing to witness piece of history on House Floor as @realDonaldTrump and @mike_pence Electoral College victory is confirmed #IA01”. [Twitter, [1/6/17](#)]

Rod Blum Voted Against A Measure That Would Force Trump To Release His Tax Returns. [The Gazette, 2/19/17 via Nexis]

Blum Voted Against A Panel To Investigate Contacts Between Russian Intelligence Officials And Associates Of Donald Trump. [The Gazette, 4/2/17 via Nexis]

Blum’s Other Controversies

Rod Blum Walked Out Of An Interview, Where He Was Surrounded By Children, After Being Asked Why He Was Prescreening Constituents Who Wanted To Attend His Town Hall. After a reporter asked Blum about his staff checking IDs and prescreening attendees to ensure that they lived in Iowa’s first district, Blum said “I don’t represent all Iowans – I represent the First District of Iowa”. After the reporter pressed him by asking “Would you still take donations from a Republican in Iowa City?” Blum stood, removed his microphone, and said “This is ridiculous. This is ridiculous. He’s just going to sit here and badger me” [The Washington Post, [5/8/17](#)]



Blum Responded That He Was “Ambushed” In The Interview. In response Blum said, “Well, we get there and we were ambushed; they didn’t want to do anything on the Dream Center... that became apparent very quickly. It was very apparent that he had an agenda. It’s my right to say that this interview is over” [The Washington Post, 5/8/17]

Blum “Violated House Ethics Rules” By Not Disclosing His Ownership Of A Company That Helped Businesses Hide FDA Warning Letters Of Safety Violations. The Associated Press reported, “A congressman from Iowa violated House ethics rules by failing to disclose his ownership role in a new company, a mysterious outfit that featured his top federal staffer in a false testimonial promoting its services, an Associated Press review shows. Rep. Rod Blum was one of two directors of the Tin Moon Corp. when the internet marketing company was incorporated in May 2016, as the Republican was serving his first term, a business filing shows. Among other services, Tin Moon promises to help companies cited for federal food and drug safety violations bury their Food and Drug Administration warning letters below positive internet search results... Tin Moon’s website on Tuesday removed an official photo of Blum wearing his congressional pin and changed his title from CEO to “majority shareholder” after AP raised questions about ethics rules. Tin Moon is based in the same Dubuque office as a construction software company Blum owns, Digital Canal. Late Wednesday, the company also removed an online video testimonial showing “John Ferland representing Digital Canal” and claiming to be a satisfied customer. Ferland — who is actually chief of staff in Blum’s congressional office and has never worked for Digital Canal — claimed that Tin Moon is “saving us thousands of dollars every month, keeping our traffic and leads higher,” and implored: “From one business owner to another, I suggest you take a look at Tin Moon.” Blum didn’t list his positions as director or CEO of Tin Moon on his personal financial disclosure for 2016, despite House rules that require members to identify all corporate positions they held during any part of the year even if they’re unpaid.” Blum claimed the lack of disclosure was an “administrative oversight.” [The Associated Press, [2/22/18](#)]

Rep. Mike Bost (IL-12)

Bost pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Bost responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bost pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Bost answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bost pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Bost responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the



lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bost pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues.

On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Bost responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bost pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Bost answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Bost co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Bost delivered a floor statement in support of the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act: “Now, according to some laws that are in this Nation, you should be able to abort a child at [25-26 weeks]. Well, I can tell you that you have never held one at that age.” [Quorum, 1/18/18]

Rep. David Brat (VA-07)

Brat pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Brat responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Brat pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance surveys, Brat answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Brat pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance surveys, Brat responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed



[5/9/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Brat pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues.

On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance surveys, Brat responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Brat pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance surveys, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Brat co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Rep. Tedd Budd (NC-13)

Budd pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Budd responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Budd pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Budd answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Budd pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Budd responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Budd pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Budd responded yes to the question, “Will you support



legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Budd pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Budd answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/9/18](#)]

Budd co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Rep. Mike Coffman (CO-6)

Coffman Previously Supported Only A Life Exception, Not Rape And Incest Exceptions, But Changed His Position In 2013. In 2012 The Denver Post reported that Coffman said, “**I am against all abortions, except when it is necessary to protect the life of the mother.**” In 2013, Coffman stated in a press release, “ I strongly support the exceptions for rape, incest, and protecting the life of the mother that have been included in this legislation” referring to H.R. 1797, a twenty-week abortion ban. Rewire reported that Personhood USA and a former president of Colorado Right to Life were upset about Coffman’s changed stance. Rewire reported that regarding rape and incest exceptions, Coffman “ardently opposed such exceptions previously.” [The Denver Post, 8/9/12, via Nexis, Rewire, [6/24/13](#), Rep. Mike Coffman press release, 6/18/13: [Press release](#)]

Coffman Emphasized To Colorado Right to Life That He Did Not Support Rape And Incest Exceptions, Despite Confusion Over His Position: “I Oppose Abortion In All Cases Of Rape And Incest.” According to a blog post from Colorado Right to Life, “Last week, while appearing on the Caplis & Silverman radio show (630 KHOW, Denver), Congressional candidate Mike Coffman was heard to say that he did not oppose abortion in cases of rape or incest. This sent CRTL and many other pro-lifers into a tizzy, because it went against what Mike had pledged in his Candidate Survey, as well as what we all thought we knew about Mike’s beliefs. When contacted about this, Mike immediately expressed surprise that he’d said any such thing. He thinks he may have gotten confused and said the opposite of what he meant. While with many candidates, we might suspect evasion, this didn’t seem to be the case with Mike. He has written to attempt to clarify with Dan Caplis, so no one will misunderstand. Here is his note (copied to CRTL): ‘First of all, thanks so much for your help with my campaign and for inviting me on your show. During the debate, Craig Silverman was questioning me on the issue of abortion. My response was focused on arguing that Roe v Wade was bad law. During that exchange, Craig asked me about the issue of rape and incest. **Apparently, my answer came across as supporting abortions under a rape and incest exception. I absolutely do not believe in that.** Dan, I would deeply appreciate it if, during your show, you could state that I wanted to make sure that my position was clear, unequivocally, that **I oppose**



abortion in all cases of rape and incest. I believe that all life is equally sacred irregardless of how it came into being. Thanks again, Mike Coffman.” [Colorado Right to Life, [10/29/08](#), via American Bridge, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Barbara Comstock (VA-10)

COMSTOCK: “I think Roe vs. Wade should be overturned and the states should decide it.”
[MSNBC, Hardball, 10/16/08, via Nexis]

Comstock Voted for Transvaginal Ultrasound Legislation. “In 2012, Comstock voted for a bill that would have required women to undergo transvaginal ultrasounds prior to undergoing an abortion.” [HB 462, [2/14/12](#); CBS News, [2/14/12](#), via Emily’s List]

Comstock has publicly stated that she is “opposed to federal funding for abortion except in cases of rape, incest, and life of the mother.” [Barbara Comstock, [9/30/15](#)]

Discussing women needing abortions facing health issues, Comstock said, “if you have a health problem, and you need to deliver, you can always go and deliver.... If there’s a danger to a health to the mother, you in and you have a procedure.” On Hardball with Chris Matthews: “COMSTOCK: Well, you can -- you can -- if you have a health problem, and you need to deliver, you can always go and deliver. What he wanted to do, with the partial-birth abortion ban, is assure a dead baby is delivered. That’s what the whole partial-birth abortion thing is about. ...COMSTOCK: No. If there’s a danger to a health to the mother, you go in and you have a procedure. You’re not guaranteed a dead baby when you deliver in an early procedure. Chris, if you’re nine months pregnant, and you have to go in early, before you have gone into labor, they deliver a baby. They don’t go in and execute and put... MATTHEWS: ... do you think that court -- the court should get rid of the health exception in Roe v. Wade? COMSTOCK: The court -- listen, the -- I think -- yes, I think Roe vs. Wade should be overturned and the states should decide it.” [MSNBC, Hardball, 10/16/08, via Nexis]

Rep. John Culberson (TX-07)

Culberson supported exceptions to abortion bans “early in cases of rape or incest.” Culberson: “I have always voted to protect life, but I’ll also always vote to ensure that the last resort option is always available to protect the life of the mother, or early in cases of rape or incest.” [Rep. John Culberson press release, [1/19/18](#)]

Culberson co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Culberson pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Culberson answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest



exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Culberson pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Culberson responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Culberson pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Culberson responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Culberson pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Culberson answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Culberson wrote that he would not support a constitutional amendment banning all abortions unless it included exceptions for rape and incest. He also [tweeted](#) that he will “continue to protect innocent human life while preserving the 3 exceptions.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Carlos Curbelo (FL-26)

Curbelo supported “prohibiting the use of federal funds to pay for abortion services”: “Press release, January 22, 2015: ‘The passage of this bill takes further steps at protecting the life of the unborn by tightening restrictions on federal financing of abortions. As a father and pro-life advocate, I strongly believe that life is a gift that must be cherished and protected. By prohibiting the use of federal funds to pay for abortion services, except in cases of rape, incest, or preserving the life of the mother, Congress has reaffirmed its commitment to advancing pro-life legislation and defending life.’ Curbelo also said, “‘I’m pro-life’ but ‘I’m certainly not going to ever put myself in the position where I’m telling any woman that their account of a rape is valid or not.’” [CNN, [1/23/15](#)]

Rep. Dan Donovan (NY-11)

Donovan voted for a 20-week ban on abortion after campaigning on a promise not to. From New York Daily News: “The DCCC ripped Donovan, the only Republican representing New York City in Congress, for voting Wednesday for a bill that bans abortions after 20 weeks, despite saying in his



campaign that while he is pro-life, he opposed new federal restrictions on abortion." [New York Daily News, [5/14/15](#)]

Donovan claims he supports rape, incest, and life exceptions to abortion bans: "Abortion has become an issue in the attorney general's race as well, pushed by Democrat Eric Schneiderman even as Republican Dan Donovan says that he too will uphold the law, though he personally opposes abortion except in cases of rape or incest." [The Associated Press State and Local Wire, 9/30/10, via Nexis]

Rep. John Faso (NY-19)

"I would propose to limit Medicaid funding to cases of rape, incest and life of the mother," Mr. Faso said during a news conference at the Capitol. "That has always been my position." [New York Times, [2/16/06](#)]

Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-08)

Fitzpatrick opposed "legalized abortion," except in cases of rape and incest or to save the life of the woman. "8 — Brian Fitzpatrick (R): (c.) I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest. Comments: I am opposed to labels and believe we must support increased funding for women's health." [Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, Candidate Questionnaire: 2016 General Election, accessed [5/11/18](#)]

Rep. Karen Handel (GA-06)

Karen Handel Is A Republican U.S. House Member Representing The Georgia 6th District. Handel won this seat in the June 2017 special election against Democrat Jon Ossoff. [The New York Times, [6/21/17](#)]

Under Karen Handel's Leadership As Senior Vice President For Public Policy, The Susan G. Komen Foundation Eliminated Around \$600,000 Worth Of Grants To Planned Parenthood For Breast Cancer Screenings "For Low-Income, Uninsured, And Under-Insured Women" And Education In 2012. Komen had provided \$680,000 to Planned Parenthood in 2011 and \$580,000 in 2010. Handel joined the Susan G. Komen foundation in April 2011. After a backlash, the grants were restored, and Handel stepped down. [New York Times, [11/8/12](#); CBS Miami, [2/2/12](#); The Atlantic, [2/1/12](#); Jezebel, [1/31/12](#)]

In 2012, Planned Parenthood Reported That Komen Grants Had Covered 170,000 Breast Cancer Screenings And 6,400 Mammogram Referrals Over The Previous Five Years. The Komen grant funding reportedly went to 19 Planned Parenthood affiliates across the country. [CBS Miami, [2/2/12](#); The Tampa Tribune, [2/3/12](#), via Tampa Bay Online and Nexis; The Atlantic, [2/1/12](#)]

In 2015, Komen Reported Providing \$465,000 In Grants To 11 Planned Parenthoods For "Breast Health Outreach And Breast Screenings For Low-Income, Uninsured Or Under-Insured



Individuals.” This included “clinical breast exams and referrals for mammograms if needed.”[Susan G. Komen, [7/15/15](#)]

In Her Resignation Letter From Komen, Handel Discussed Her Involvement In And Support For The Decision To Cut Planned Parenthood Grants: “I Openly Acknowledge My Role In The Matter And Continue To Believe Our Decision Was The Best One For Komen’s Future And The Women We Serve.” Handel believed cutting the grants to Planned Parenthood “would have indeed enabled Komen to deliver even greater community impact.” [The Daily Beast, [2/7/12](#)]

News Outlets Such As *The Atlantic*, CNN, Jezebel, And The Huffington Post Attributed The Decision For Komen To Stop Providing Grants To Planned Parenthood To Handel. CNN reported Handel was “the driving force behind the foundation’s decision not to renew parts of its longstanding partnership with Planned Parenthood.” The Huffington Post ran an article with the headline “Karen Handel, Susan G. Komen’s Anti-Abortion VP, Drove Decision To Defund Planned Parenthood.” [CNN, [2/7/12](#); *The Atlantic*, [2/1/12](#); Jezebel, [1/31/12](#)]; The Huffington Post, [2/5/12](#)]

The Huffington Post Quoted A Source Inside The Komen Foundation Who Said “Karen Handel Was The Prime Instigator Of This Effort” To Stop Providing Grants To Planned Parenthood. The anonymous source said Handel “personally came up with investigation criteria,” which Komen used to justify its decision to cut the grants. “She said, ‘If we just say it’s about investigations, we can defund Planned Parenthood and no one can blame us for being political.’” The source also said that Handel often brought up right-wing protests against Komen for its Planned Parenthood funding: “Komen’s been dealing with the Planned Parenthood issue for years, and you know, some right-wing groups would organize a protest or send out a mailing every now and then, but it was on a low simmer...What Karen’s been doing for the past six months is ratcheting up the issue with leadership. Every time someone would even mention a protest, she would magnify it, pump it up, exaggerate it. She’s the one that kept driving this issue.” [The Huffington Post,[2/5/12](#)]

The Huffington Post Reviewed Internal Komen Foundation Emails That “Confirm The Source’s Description Of Handel’s Sole ‘Authority’ In Crafting And Implementing The Planned Parenthood Policy.” [The Huffington Post, [2/5/12](#)]

Handel Downplayed The Backlash To Komen Cutting Planned Parenthood Grants As “PR Spin” Karen Handel Described “The Great Outcry That Somehow Women Were Going To Be Left In The Dirt” When Komen Cut Its Planned Parenthood Grants “Nothing More Than Planned Parenthood PR Spin.” Handel also said that “the idea that women’s rights equals abortion rights” was “truly liberal, pro-abortion bias within the press,” which she thought was evident in coverage of the Komen controversy. [World Magazine, [3/24/12](#)]

Handel Criticized Planned Parenthood’s Response To Komen Cutting Its Grants: “Komen Was Simply A Breast Cancer Organization Facing Mafia-Style Shakedown Tactics By Planned Parenthood Holding Komen Hostage.” Handel called Planned Parenthood’s response “vicious full-on assault across multiple channels. It wasn’t just in the press. It was against Komen’s donors. Corporate contributors to Komen were seeing their Facebooks completely raided. They were being picketed. CEOs



were getting phone calls and emails. Twitter exploded with some of the most vile and vicious things that you can imagine." [World Magazine, [3/24/12](#)]

Handle Called Planned Parenthood "A Bunch Of Schoolyard Thugs" Who Conducted A "Vicious Mugging" Of The Susan G. Komen Foundation. She also called Planned Parenthood' actions "bullying at the height of bullyism" for blaming her for the grant cuts. [The Daily Beast, [9/5/12](#)]

During Her Gubernatorial Campaign, Handel Pledged To Cut State Grants To Planned Parenthood For Cancer Screenings And A Program For Babies

Karen Handel, 2010: "Since I Am Pro-Life, I Do Not Support The Mission Of Planned Parenthood."

In a gubernatorial campaign blog post, Handel also wrote, "I strongly support the noble work of crisis-pregnancy centers across the state" and "I oppose embryonic stem cell research, which creates life solely for the purpose of destroying it." [Karen Handel for Governor, via Wayback Machine, [7/15/10](#); Jezebel, [1/31/12](#)]

In Her 2010 Gubernatorial Campaign, Handel Pledged To "Eliminate" Grants Like Those Awarded By Fulton County To "Planned Parenthood For Breast And Cervical Cancer Screening, As Well As A Healthy Babies Initiative." Handel wrote, "During my time as Chairman of Fulton County, there were federal and state pass-through grants that were awarded to Planned Parenthood for breast and cervical cancer screening, as well as a Healthy Babies Initiative. The grant was authorized, regulated, administered and distributed through the State of Georgia. Because of the criteria, regulations and parameters of the grant, Planned Parenthood was the only eligible vendor approved to meet the state criteria. Additionally, none of the services in any way involved abortions or abortion-related services. In fact, state and federal law prohibits the use of taxpayer funds for abortions or abortion related services and I strongly support those laws. **Since grants like these are from the state I'll eliminate them as your next Governor.** (sic)" [Karen Handel for Governor, via Wayback Machine, [7/15/10](#); Jezebel, [1/31/12](#)]

Susan B. Anthony List Spent \$25,974 On Independent Activities Supporting Karen Handel And Donated \$5,000 To Her Campaign For The Georgia 6th Congressional Seat

Susan B. Anthony List endorsed Karen Handel in the Georgia 6th special election for U.S. Congress. SBA List donated \$5,000 directly to the Handel campaign. It also spent \$25,974 on independent activities supporting Handel's campaign, with \$24,774 on direct mail and \$1,200 on robocalls.

Susan B. Anthony List Endorsed "Pro-Life Champion" Karen Handel In The Georgia 6th Special Congressional Election. In the SBA List endorsement press release, Marjorie Dannenfelser called Handel "a fearless champion of unborn children and their mothers." Following the initial April 18th election, SBA List "declared victory" as Handel moved into the runoff. [Susan B. Anthony List, [3/7/17](#); Susan B. Anthony List, [4/19/17](#)]

Susan B. Anthony List Inc. Candidate Fund Donated \$5,000 To Handel For Congress. This donation came on March 23rd, 2017, following its endorsement of Handel. [FEC.gov, [4/20/17](#)]

Susan B. Anthony List Inc. Spent \$1200 For Robocalls In Support Of Karen Handel. SBA List paid Campaign Marketing Strategies Inc on April 15th, 2017 for these robocalls. [FEC.gov, [4/16/17](#)]



Susan B. Anthony List Inc. Spent \$24,774 On “Voter Mail” In Support Of Karen Handel In April 2017. Susan B. Anthony List paid The Lukens Company \$8,258 in three increments throughout April for the mail. Susan B. Anthony List’s direct mail highlighted Handel’s anti-abortion stances. The mail pieces stated that Handel would vote to defund Planned Parenthood, support legislation banning late-term abortions, and vote for legislation “to prohibit taxpayer funding on abortions.” One piece of mail mentioned Handel’s book about Planned Parenthood, called “Planned Bullyhood.” Another encouraged voters to support Handel in order to “stop pro-abortion Democrat Jon Ossoff.” [Susan B. Anthony List, [4/4/17](#); Susan B. Anthony List, [4/6/17](#); Susan B. Anthony List, [4/11/17](#); FEC.gov, [4/6/17](#); FEC.gov, [4/10/17](#); FEC.gov, [4/13/17](#)]

Susan B. Anthony List Claimed That It Contacted Over 25,000 Voters With Direct Mail Pieces Ahead Of The April 2016 Congressional Election In The Georgia 6th District. The three pieces of mail supported SBA List-endorsed candidate, Karen Handel. [Susan B. Anthony List, [4/12/17](#)]

Susan B. Anthony List Mailer 1 [Susan B. Anthony List, [4/4/17](#)] **Susan B. Anthony List Mailer 2** [Susan B. Anthony List, [4/6/17](#)] **Susan B. Anthony List Mailer 3** [Susan B. Anthony List, [4/11/17](#)]

Rep. Vicky Hartzler (MO-04)

Hartzler pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Hartzler responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hartzler pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hartzler answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hartzler pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Hartzler responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hartzler pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hartzler responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the



federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hartzler pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hartzler answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Yvette Herrell (NM-02)

Herrell was the primary sponsor of a 20-week abortion ban in the New Mexico legislature, which did not include rape, incest or health exceptions. The New Mexican reported: “The sponsor of House Bill 220, which would ban abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy except when a doctor deems the procedure medically necessary, emphasized it would not prohibit all abortions but curb the abortion of what she described as viable human beings. ‘This is a constitutional right for these 5-month-old babies,’ said Rep. Yvette Herrell, R-Alamogordo.” Anti-choice group Pro-Life Witness wrote, “It is encouraging to see pro-life state legislators sponsor solid no exceptions legislation that will protect pre-born babies in the womb. Both Senator Bill Sharer (R) from Farmington and Rep. Yvette Herrell (R) from Alamogordo have tightened up their late term abortion ban bills that DO NOT contain exceptions for rape and incest nor the subjective psychological ‘health’ exception in them. Rep. Rod Montoya (R) from Farmington is sponsoring the Infant Born Alive Protection Act. We fully support these pieces of legislation and encourage other legislators to support these bills that will save the lives of viable babies in our state,’ stated Bud Shaver.” [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18, Pro-Life Witness, [2/13/17](#), [Silver City Daily Press & Independent, 3/7/17, via Nexis, Santa Fe New Mexican, [3/5/17](#)]

Herrell co-sponsored a bill that banned abortion for rape victims as it “equated termination of a pregnancy” caused by rape with “tampering with evidence.” The New Mexican reported: “An abortion bill introduced in the state House of Representatives by a Carlsbad Republican caused a political uproar in New Mexico and got some national notoriety Thursday -- though the bill's sponsor says it's all a misunderstanding. Rep. Cathrynn Brown's House Bill 206, as written, would subject a victim of rape or incest to possible felony prosecution for obtaining an abortion. It equated termination of a pregnancy in these situations with ‘tampering with evidence.’ Her bill says, ‘Tampering with evidence shall include procuring or facilitating an abortion, or compelling or coercing another to obtain an abortion, of a fetus that is the result of criminal sexual penetration or incest with the intent to destroy evidence of the crime.’ But Brown says her intent is not to go after rape and incest victims, but to prosecute rapists and incest perpetrators who coerce women into having abortions. She said the mistake occurred during the drafting of the bill, and she's working on a substitute to make it clear the proposed law wouldn't apply to the victims.” [The New Mexican, [1/25/13](#)]

Herrell sponsored a 20-week abortion ban that originally required rape survivors to provide an affidavit proving they were raped and that the rape was reported to police in order to receive an abortion. Jezebel reported, “And so they did, getting some obliging legislators to sponsor two bills, either of which would be devastating on its own. [HB 390](#), sponsored by Rep. Yvette Herrell of Alamogordo, would ban abortion after 20 weeks, with exceptions for rape, incest, and life endangerment. (Some of the



original language of the bill, which was edited out in committee, was even worse. It specified that late-term abortion could only be obtained if the woman proved she was really, actually raped: ‘The woman must present to the special hospital board an affidavit that she has been raped and that the rape has been or will be reported to an appropriated law enforcement official.’” [Jezebel, [3/4/15](#)]

Rep. Trey Hollingsworth (IN-09)

Hollingsworth Reported That He Thought Abortion Should “Never” Be Legal. On the Indiana Right to Life 2018 primary candidate survey, Hollingsworth answered the question “Under what circumstances do you believe abortion should be legal?” with “A. Never.” The other options were “B. Life of the Mother only C. Rape/Incest D. Other E. Always.” [Indiana Right to Life 2018 Primary Voter Guide, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hollingsworth pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Hollingsworth responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hollingsworth pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hollingsworth answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hollingsworth pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Hollingsworth responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hollingsworth pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hollingsworth responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hollingsworth pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hollingsworth answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of



when life begins?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Randy Hultgren (IL-14)

Hultgren co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Hultgren pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Hultgren responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hultgren pledged to support federal legislation "giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter" with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hultgren answered yes to the question "Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hultgren pledged to support judicial nominees who "will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Hultgren responded yes to the question "Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hultgren pledged to support legislation to remove "federal courts jurisdiction" over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hultgren responded yes to the question, "Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Hultgren pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning "at the moment of conception." On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Hultgren answered yes to the question, "Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, "the difficult question of when life begins?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Rep. John Katko (NY-24)

Katko wants to overturn Roe v. Wade. “Katko opposes abortion, except in cases of rape and incest, or if the health of the mother is at risk. He said during one debate in 2014 that he would reverse the Supreme Court decision in Roe v. Wade if given the opportunity.” [PolitiFact, [10/5/16](#)]

Katko opposes legal abortion except in cases of rape and incest or to protect the health of the woman: “My position on abortion is consistent with my faith in the Catholic Church, with the exception of rape, incest or the health of the mother,” he said. [The Post Standard, 7/22/14, via Nexis]

Rep. Steve Knight (CA-25)

VIDEO: In 2014, Knight said “I’m a pro-life candidate without exception.” In a press release, Emily’s List wrote, “ In a 2014 video, Knight stressed his pro-life stance: “So, I’m a pro-life candidate. I’ve made no bones about it. I think that some people run from this issue and they say, oh boy don’t talk about this. I’ve made it very clear, I’m a pro-life candidate without exception ... You can’t go in there and say you’re pro-life, except in these cases, or except in this case, or except in this case.”” [Emily’s List press release, 6/1/15, via Nexis, Ventura County Star, 6/4/15, via Nexis, VIDEO: Vimeo, [2014](#)]

Videos: DCCC And Knight’s 2016 Democratic challenger ran ads against Knight showing him saying “I am pro-life, I don’t make exception.” [Los Angeles Times, [9/12/16](#), DCCC, [10/7/16](#)]

Knight pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Knight responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Knight pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Knight answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Knight pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Knight responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Knight pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues.

On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Knight responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Knight pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Knight answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Knight expressed his support for a federal ban on the distribution of ella, a form of emergency contraception, and other medications referred to as “home abortion drugs.” On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Knight answered yes to the question, “Should the federal government bar the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486 and “ella?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Jason Lewis (MN-02)

Lewis indicated his anti-choice beliefs in a Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Questionnaire.

[Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, [Sept.-Oct. 2016](#)]

AUDIO: According to Michael Brodkorb in the Star Tribune, “On his radio show on November 7, 2012, Lewis made the following comments about women:

“I never thought in my lifetime where’d you have so many single, or I should say, yeah single women who would vote on the issue of somebody else buying their diaphragm. This is a country in crisis. **Those women are ignorant in, I mean, the most generic way.** I don’t mean that to be a pejorative. **They are simply ignorant of the important issues in life. Somebody’s got to educate them.**” [[Audio here](#)]

“There’s something about young, single women where they’re behaving like Stepford wives. They walk in lock step – is that really the most important thing to a 25-year old unmarried woman – uh getting me to pay for her pills? Seriously?! Is that what we’ve been reduced to? You can be bought off for that?” [[Audio here](#)]

“**You’ve got a vast majority of young single women who couldn’t explain to you what GDP means. You know what they care about? They care about abortion.** They care about abortion and gay marriage. They care about ‘The View.’ **They are non-thinking.**” [[Audio here](#)] [Star Tribune, [2/16/16](#)]



Rep. Mia Love (UT-04)

Love pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Love responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Love pledged to support federal legislation "giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter" with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Love answered yes to the question "Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Love pledged to support judicial nominees who "will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Love responded yes to the question "Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Love pledged to support legislation to remove "federal courts jurisdiction" over abortion issues. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Love responded yes to the question, "Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Love pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning "at the moment of conception." On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Love answered yes to the question, "Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, "the difficult question of when life begins?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Tom MacArthur (NJ-03)

MacArthur said, "I am pro-life and believe in exceptions for cases of rape, incest, and if the mother's life is in jeopardy. I also understand that good people can disagree on this issue, and our common ground should be working together to reduce the number of unplanned pregnancies," he said. "What I don't understand is how someone like Aimee Belgard could think this kind of ugly attack would be a good idea." NJTV also reported, "For the record, MacArthur's pro-life but would make exceptions for rape and incest." [Burlington County Times, [9/14/17](#); NJTV News, [10/21/14](#)]



MacArthur was criticized after being endorsed by group that does not support rape or incest exceptions:

In 2014, Democrat Aimee Belgard ran an ad attacking MacArthur: “And MacArthur opposes a woman’s right to choose, backed by a group that would outlaw abortion, even for rape and incest,” the ad says.” [NJTV News, [10/21/14](#), 2014 Political Ad by Aimee Belgard for Congress, [10/08/14](#)]

MacArthur Donated \$24,000 To Fake Women’s Health Centers In 2012. “Women’s health care has become an issue in the contentious 3rd Congressional District race between Democrat Aimee Belgard and Republican Tom MacArthur as the Democrat’s campaign attacked the former insurance executive for making a \$24,000 charitable contribution to a North Jersey nonprofit that encourages pregnant women to seek alternatives to abortions. MacArthur’s foundation, In God’s Hands Charitable Foundation, made the contribution to the 1st Choice Women’s Health Center in 2012, according to the foundation’s tax forms. The nonprofit operates crisis pregnancy centers in Morristown, Jersey City, Newark and Montclair. According to the group’s website, the clinics provide free pregnancy tests and options counseling, ultrasound tests to confirm pregnancies, emergency contraception information, information about abortion “risks and procedures,” select sexually-transmitted infection screenings, counseling about healthy relationships, and post-abortion support.” [Burlington County News, [9/17/14](#)]

MacArthur was criticized at a town hall for drafting language that could make rape a preexisting condition, but wouldn’t answer questions. He called the questions “hysteria.” MacArthur was co-author of the MacArthur-Meadows amendment, which would have allowed states to roll back protections for patients with preexisting conditions. As ThinkProgress noted, “many worry that survivors of sexual trauma — as well as those who have been treated for a whole host of gender-related illnesses, such as postpartum depression and cesarean sections, may once again face discrimination in the form of higher insurance costs.” [ThinkProgress, [5/11/17](#)]

Rep. Brian Mast (FL-18)

Mast co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Mast had previously said, “If the mother’s life is in jeopardy, or if it is a case of rape or incest, then abortion is okay. However, **abortion is murder** if it is used as a form of birth control.” [The Times of Israel, [3/2/16](#)]

Mast pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Mast answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question, and Mast did express his support for rape and incest exceptions on a constitutional abortion ban in Question 10. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Mast pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Mast responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Mast pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Mast responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Mast pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Mast answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05)

Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers: I am opposed to abortion in all instances, except when the life of the mother is at stake...not for rape or incest. “[The Spokesman-Review] 9. Do you believe abortion should be legal under all circumstances in which it is currently legal, limited to certain circumstances, or illegal?... [Cathy McMorris Rodgers]: I am pro-life. I am opposed to abortion in all instances, except when the life of the mother is at stake. I believe life begins at conception and the most vulnerable of our society should be protected.” The Seattle Times also reported this in 2012: “McMorris Rodgers, for her part, supports legal abortions only when a mother’s life is threatened, but not for rape or incest.” [The Spokesman-Review, [7/15/12](#), via American Bridge, accessed [5/10/18](#), The Seattle Times, [8/25/12](#)]

McMorris Rodgers published a Tweet stating that the Hyde Amendment is “the most successful abortion reduction program enacted.” [Twitter, [9/30/16](#)]

Rep. Erik Paulsen (MN-03)

Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life reported that Paulsen sent written support to the 2018 Minnesota March for Life: “**While Roe v. Wade will forever remain a stain in our nation’s history**, we have many reasons to be optimistic...Thank you for commemorating the millions of lives tragically lost to abortion and for giving a voice to the unborn.” [Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, [1/22/18](#)]

Paulsen indicated his anti-choice beliefs in a Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life Questionnaire. [Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, [Sept.-Oct. 2016](#)]



Rep. Bruce Poliquin (ME-02)

Poliquin pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Poliquin responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 6, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Poliquin pledged to support federal legislation "giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter" with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Poliquin answered yes to the question "Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 6, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Poliquin pledged to support judicial nominees who "will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Poliquin responded yes to the question "Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 6, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Poliquin pledged to support legislation to remove "federal courts jurisdiction" over abortion issues. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Poliquin responded yes to the question, "Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 6, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Poliquin pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning "at the moment of conception." On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Barr answered yes to the question, "Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, "the difficult question of when life begins?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 6, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Keith Rothfus (PA-17)

Rothfus pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Rothfus responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Rothfus pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Rothfus answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rothfus pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Rothfus responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rothfus pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Rothfus responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rothfus pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Rothfus answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rothfus expressed his support for a federal ban on the distribution of ella, a form of emergency contraception, and other medications referred to as “home abortion drugs.” On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Rothfus answered yes to the question, “Should the federal government bar the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486 and “ella?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 5, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rothfus co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. Rothfus also delivered a [floor statement](#) in support of H.R. 490: “This legislation protects a pre-born baby’s life when his or her heartbeat is detected. A heartbeat is a very basic sign of life. The pulse represents a unique person with inherent dignity and natural, human and constitutional rights that extend throughout the continuum of life through conception until natural death.” [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]



“Two days after the deadliest mass shooting in America, Pennsylvania Representative Keith Rothfus declared “if you want to begin to prevent violence in our country, vote for this bill.” **He wasn’t talking about gun control; he was talking about banning abortion.** The House passed the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, to ban abortions after 20 weeks. During the floor debate, Republicans like Rothfus lobbed bad science and emotional blackmail to shame women into not getting abortions.” [BTR Today, [10/5/17](#)]

Rep. Pete Sessions (TX-32)

Sessions pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Sessions responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Sessions pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Sessions answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Sessions pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Sessions responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Sessions pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Sessions responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Sessions pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Sessions answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Danny Tarkanian (NV-03)

PolitiFact reported in 2016 that Tarkanian opposed abortion even in cases of rape and incest.

PolitiFact found Jacky Rosen's statement that "Danny Tarkanian ... wants to defund Planned Parenthood and would outlaw a woman's right to choose, even in cases of rape or incest" to be true. PolitiFact reported: "Tarkanian has consistently said he'd support removing federal funding from Planned Parenthood and that he opposed abortion with the sole exception if the pregnancy threatens the life of the mother. Most recently, he answered a pre-2016 primary voter guide saying he would support defunding Planned Parenthood and support legislation "to protect the right to life of every person from conception to natural death," with an exception if it's necessary to save the life of the mother." The Reno Gazette-Journal also reported in 2009 that Tarkanian only supported exceptions to save the lives of women. [PolitiFact, [8/4/16](#), Reno Gazette-Journal, 10/23/09, via Nexis]

Tarkanian indicated that he supported abortion bans with only an exception to save women's lives and specified that the issue at hand "must be life threatening."

On a 2016 candidate survey, Tarkanian answered that he would support "legislation to protect the right to life of every person from conception to natural death?" For exceptions, he wrote "to save the life of the mother (must be life threatening)." [Nevada Concerned Citizens Value Voters Guide Primary Election 2016, accessed [5/11/18](#), via PolitiFact, [8/4/16](#)]

Tarkanian pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Tarkanian responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Tarkanian pledged to support federal legislation "giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter" with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Tarkanian answered yes to the question "Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Tarkanian pledged to support judicial nominees who "will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Tarkanian responded yes to the question "Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Tarkanian pledged to support legislation to remove "federal courts jurisdiction" over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Tarkanian responded yes to the question, "Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the



federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Tarkanian pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Tarkanian answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 1, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Scott Taylor (VA-02)

In 2010, Taylor only supported exceptions to abortion bans to save the life of a woman. The Virginian-Pilot reported, “Ed Maulbeck of Virginia Beach would support exceptions in cases of rape, incest or when the mother’s life is endangered. Scott Taylor of Virginia Beach said the only exception should be when the woman’s life is in danger.” [The Virginian-Pilot, 5/31/10, via Nexis]

Rep. Claudia Tenney (NY-22)

Tenney co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Tenney pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Tenney answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question, and Tenney did indicate her support for rape and incest exceptions for a constitutional ban on abortion in Question 10. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 7, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Tenney pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Tenney responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 7, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Tenney pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Tenney responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 7, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Tenney pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Tenney answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 7, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Tenney pledged to support a constitutional abortion ban with exceptions for rape, incest, and the life of the woman. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Tenney responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Tenney indicated that she would only support this ban with rape and incest exceptions added. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 7, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Mimi Walters (CA-45)

According to the California Pro-Life Council, Walters supports “legal protection for unborn children” and “requiring parental consent before an abortion can be performed on a minor” [California Pro-Life Council, [2016](#)]

Rep. Ann Wagner (MO-02)

Wagner only supported exceptions to abortion bans to protect the life of a woman, not for cases of rape or incest. The St. Louis Dispatch Reported, “One of the exceptions in the 20-week abortion ban, as written, is in cases of rape or incest. Rep. Ann Wagner, R-Ballwin, was among those who oppose those exceptions. She said she supports exceptions only when a procedure after 20 weeks threatens the life of the mother. Wagner's proposal drew opposition from moderate Republicans in what Wagner agreed was a spirited debate behind closed doors of the 246-member House Republican caucus. Wagner, a member of House leadership, said in an interview that, if necessary, she will vote for the bill with the rape and incest exception in it. “I support the bill and, in fact, I believe that a 20-week-old baby that feels pain and recognizes the sound of its own mother's voice at that age should not be aborted, and that **the only exception that I support is life of the mother,**” she said. “We are working on some of the details on it...I want to save 20-week-old babies that feel pain. However we get there, I will support it.” [St. Louis Post-Dispatch, [1/22/15](#)]

Wagner encouraged Republican House leadership to pursue an abortion ban without rape and incest exceptions. The National Journal reported, “Although McCarthy's public optimism belied the tension behind closed doors, it was clear leaders would have to tweak, if not not fully abandon, the bill to move forward. There were three options: Get rid of all exception language other than allowing the late-term abortion if the life of the mother is at risk; remove the reporting requirement and include only exceptions for rape, incest, and the life of the mother; or pull the bill entirely....In the meeting, the decision was made to try the first route, one that had been espoused by Rep. Ann Wagner and other members at the morning conference meeting.” The Atlantic reported, “Rep. Ann Wagner pushed leaders to remove every exception other than cases when the life of the mother is at stake, according to member sources, but doing so could have alienated more centrists. Others wanted leaders to simply remove the clause



mandating reporting rape to the authorities, but that could have pushed away the party's activists." National Review reported, "Wagner argued against including the rape and incest exceptions at all, a position similar to the one Franks defended when he made the damaging gaffe." [National Journal, 1/22/15, via Nexis, The Atlantic, [1/21/15](#), National Review,

Other Republicans opposed the bill for having too narrow of a rape exception, since it required women to report rapes to law enforcement; Wagner supported removing it entirely and moving the ban forward with no rape exception. The National Review reported, "Several House Republicans -- most prominently Representatives Renee Ellmers (N.C.), Jackie Walorski (Ind.), and Ann Wagner (Mo.) -- complained about the bill. Ellmers said that holding an early vote on it would alienate young voters, even though polling indicates they are the age group most in favor of it. All of them objected to the provision of the bill allowing late-term abortions for women who reported rapes to law enforcement. They wanted a broader rape exception, although **Wagner, bizarrely, said she would also be satisfied if there were no rape exception at all.**" The Atlantic reported on the split in the Republican caucus under the headline "GOP Leaders Pull Abortion Bill After Revolt By Women, Moderates," pointing out that Wagner was on the extreme side of the split by opposing any rape exception. [National Review, 2/23/15, via Nexis, The Atlantic, [1/21/15](#)]

Wagner co-sponsored H.R. 490, a ban on abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which did not include exceptions for rape or incest. [Quorum, accessed 5/11/18]

Wagner pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Wagner responded yes to the question, "Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Wagner pledged to support federal legislation "giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter" with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Wagner answered yes to the question "Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Wagner pledged to support judicial nominees who "will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Wagner responded yes to the question "Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn." [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Wagner pledged to support legislation to remove "federal courts jurisdiction" over abortion issues. On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Wagner responded yes to the question, "Will you



support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?" [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Wagner pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Wagner answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Wagner expressed his support for a federal ban on the distribution of ella, a form of emergency contraception, and other medications referred to as “home abortion drugs.” On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Wagner answered yes to the question, “Should the federal government bar the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486 and “ella?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Rep. Tim Walberg (MI-07)

Walberg opposed exceptions to abortion bans for rape, incest, or the health of the woman. The Jackson City Patriot reported, “Walberg called opposition to abortion a “moral absolute.” He never disagreed with Right to Life of Michigan, leader of the state's anti-abortion lobby, on a legislative vote in 16 years in the state House. Walberg says abortion should be illegal with no exceptions for rape, incest or the health of the mother. **‘The only exception I would give in very, very rare cases -- underline ‘rare’ -- is for the life of the mother,’** Walberg said. **‘Not the health of the mother. The health of the mother is fraught with too many vagaries and potential abuses.’**” [The Jackson City Patriot, 7/30/06, via VoteSmart]

Right to Life of Michigan endorsed Walberg in the 2016 Election. Right to Life of Michigan will only endorse candidates who are **“Prolife - First and foremost, a candidate must be prolife with no exceptions other than life of the mother. A candidate must also complete a Candidate Questionnaire based on the elected office the candidate is seeking.”** [Right to Life of Michigan-PAC 2016 Primary Endorsements, accessed [5/11/18](#), Right to Life of Michigan endorsement criteria, accessed [5/11/18](#)]

Walberg pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Walberg responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Walberg pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Walberg answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their



minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?" Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Walberg pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Walberg responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Walberg pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Walberg pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Walberg answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Walberg expressed his support for a federal ban on the distribution of ella, a form of emergency contraception, and other medications referred to as “home abortion drugs.” On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Walberg answered yes to the question, “Should the federal government bar the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486 and “ella?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Walberg Tweeted at least **five times** that he is “[100% against abortion](#),” “[100% anti-abortion](#),” or “[100% pro-life](#).” [Twitter, [8/19/14](#); Twitter, [9/28/14](#); Twitter, [7/25/14](#)]

Rep. David Young (IA-03)

In 2013, Young emphasized his opposition to rape and incest exceptions to abortion bans. The Daily Times Herald wrote, “A spokesperson for Republican U.S. Senate candidate David Young says he believes abortion should only be a legal option in cases where the life of the pregnant mother is in jeopardy. Heather Swift, the communications director for the candidate, a former chief of staff to U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, said this has been Young’s long-standing position on abortion policy. However,



it differs from comments Young made in an interview last month with The Daily Times Herald in which he repeatedly advocated legalized abortion for women who have been victims of rape and incest.” [Daily Times Herald, [8/12/13](#)]

Young pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Young responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

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Young pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Young responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Young pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Young responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Young pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 and 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate surveys, Young answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Young expressed his support for a federal ban on the distribution of ella, a form of emergency contraception, and other medications referred to as “home abortion drugs.” On the 2014 National



Pro-Life Alliance survey, Young answered yes to the question, “Should the federal government bar the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486 and “ella?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 3, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Senate Candidates

Sen. Dean Heller (NV-Sen)

As A Congressional Candidate, Heller Said He Was Pro-Choice

In 2006, Heller Said He Supported “A Woman’s Right To Choose Abortion,” Which He Said Was “The Conservative Position.” Heller said, “I’m a Mormon and I teach Sunday school every week, but I do back a woman’s right to choose abortion. It is the conservative position.” [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, 6/18/11 via Nexis]

Heller Changed His Stance On Abortion When Running For The Senate

In 2011, Heller Said He Was “Pro-Life” And Opposed Federal Funding For Abortion. Heller was appointed to the U.S. Senate in 2011 and sought reelection in 2012. After his appointment, the Associated Press reported that “Sen. Dean Heller’s stance on abortion would appear to have changed completely from the congressional candidate who stated five years ago that he supported a woman’s right to have an abortion.” Heller said: “I was probably more libertarian when I was back in the state. I came here to Washington D.C., and there were certain votes that had to be cast. A couple of those votes, of course, had to do with the federal funding of abortions. I didn’t support it. And that being the case, it became more clear that was my position.” [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, 6/18/11 via Nexis]

Heller Said Roe V. Wade Was “A Court Issue, Not A Legislative Issue” And Would Not Say Whether Or Not He Supported Overturning It. In full, Heller said, “I don’t spend much time worrying about that because I don’t believe there will ever be legislation that’s going to determine this issue in the future... This is something that will be decided by the courts and so it’s nothing I see myself getting involved in. It’s a court issue, not a legislative issue.” [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, 6/18/11 via Nexis]

Heller Voted For And Defended The Blunt Amendment, Which Would Have Allowed Insurers And Employers To Refuse To Provide Contraceptive Coverage

Heller Voted For The Blunt Amendment In 2012. According to a statement by NARAL Pro-Choice America condemning Heller for this vote, the Blunt Amendment “would have allowed corporations and insurance companies to refuse to cover birth control and other essential health benefits, including maternity care, HIV/AIDS treatment, and cancer screening.” [NARAL Pro-Choice America, 3/1/12, via Nexis]



When Voting For The Blunt Amendment, Heller Defended The State Of Contraception Access Prior To The Affordable Care Act: “All We Are Trying To Revert To Is The Law Of The Land Today... No One Is Complaining Today That The Current Law Is Bad.” Heller continued, “This country spends billions on allowing for free access of contraception. Go to any health clinic and that access is available.” He also said that complaints about the Blunt amendment were “campaign rhetoric.” [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, 3/1/12, via Nexis; Real Clear Politics, [3/1/12](#)]

Heller On The Blunt Amendment: “In No Way Would This Amendment Deny Or Interfere With A Woman’s Access To Contraception.” Heller called the idea that allowing businesses to drop contraceptive coverage would “interfere with” access was “an absurd allegation.” He said that the Blunt Amendment was “about one thing and one thing only; whether the federal government can force religious organizations to provide a service that violates their faith.” [Senator Heller press release, [3/1/12](#)]

Heller Supported The 20-Week Abortion Ban

In 2015, Heller “Supported Invoking Cloture On The Motion To Proceed” On A Abortion Ban. The bill banned abortions after 20 weeks with exceptions for rape, incest, and the life of the mother. [Senator Heller press release, 9/24/15, via Nexis; The Washington Times, [9/22/15](#)]

Heller Opposed The Paycheck Fairness Act

Heller Repeatedly Voted Against The Paycheck Fairness Act, Calling It A “War On Free Enterprise.” Heller voted against pay equality legislation while in the House of Representatives in 2009 and the Senate in 2012. In 2012, Heller was the only Republican to speak about the bill on the Senate floor, where he said, “Let me be clear: pay discrimination based on gender is unacceptable... Despite the political rhetoric around here, everyone agrees on this fact. The question is, will the Paycheck Fairness Act actually address workplace inequality? And the simple answer is no.” Heller also called the Paycheck Fairness Act a bill “designed for press releases” and said, “unfortunately, the only winners under this legislation would be trial lawyers.” [New York Times, [6/5/12](#); ThinkProgress, [6/5/12](#); Las Vegas Sun, [6/5/12](#)]

In 2012, Heller Introduced A “Watered-Down” Alternative To The Paycheck Fairness Act, Which Omitted Key Worker Protections. According to the Center for American Progress, Heller’s bill was a “weak, watered-down version of the Paycheck Fairness Act that omitted key provisions such as “competitive grants for negotiation-skills training programs for women and girls.” It’s penalties for employers who discriminate against women were comparatively “slight,” giving employers “little incentive to comply with current laws and mak[ing] pursuing legal action costly to workers who face discrimination.” The Las Vegas Sun reported that Heller’s Bill, called the End Pay Discrimination Through Information Act, would “prevent the government from collecting salary information and disbursing grants to help women better negotiate higher salaries.” [Las Vegas Sun, [6/5/12](#); Center for American Progress, [6/11/12](#)]

Heller Also Opposed The Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act

Heller Voted Against The Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. The law expanded the timeframe employees have for seeking legal action to address discriminatory pay. [ThinkProgress, [6/5/12](#); Las Vegas Sun, [4/29/12](#); Govtrack.us, accessed [9/5/17](#)]



Heller Has Repeatedly Voted To Defund Planned Parenthood And Block Federal Tax Credits From Being Used On Private Abortion Coverage

Heller Voted To Defund Planned Parenthood In 2011 And 2015. According to a press release from Senator Heller's office, Heller "supported Representative Pence's amendment to prohibit funds from being made available for any purpose to Planned Parenthood or any of its affiliates" in February 2011. The press release also reported that Heller "supported invoking cloture on the motion to proceed to S.1881, Senators Ernst, Paul and Lankford's legislation (S.1881) to defund Planned Parenthood and transfer federal funding from this organization to other eligible entities such as state and local health departments, federally qualified community health centers, hospitals and others that provide health services to women" in September 2015. [13 KTNV, 2/28/11, via Nexis; The Nevada Sagebrush: University of Nevada-Reno, 2/14/17; 13 KTNV, 8/4/15, via Nexis; Senator Heller office press release, 9/24/15, via Nexis]

- **Las Vegas Review-Journal Headline: Heller Wants To Defund Planned Parenthood.** [Las Vegas Review-Journal, 7/29/15, via Nexis]

Heller Cited The Undercover Planned Parenthood Videos As A Reason To Defund Planned Parenthood: "I've Seen The Films Just Like Everybody Else... I Think It's Beyond The Pale That These Are The Activities Of Planned Parenthood. Heller continued, "As one of the more progressive Republicans on this particular issue, I think Planned Parenthood went way too far on this one." Heller also said he planned to vote to defund Planned Parenthood over the videos: "This has nothing to do with women's health and everything to do with the activities of Planned Parenthood." [Las Vegas Review-Journal, 7/29/15, via Nexis]

Heller Voted For The No Taxpayer Funding For Abortion Act In May 2011. The bill, for which all House Republicans voted, included provisions to ban D.C. from using public funds for abortions and to cut tax credits for small business that provide health insurance covering abortions. [The Associated Press State & Local Wire, 6/18/11; ThinkProgress, [5/4/11](#); House roll call vote, [5/4/11](#)]

Despite Waffling When Under Pressure, Heller Has Repeatedly Emphasized His Support For Defunding Planned Parenthood

In February 2017, Heller Told A Town Hall "I Will Protect Planned Parenthood" And "I Have No Problems With Federal Funding For Planned Parenthood;" Before A Spokesperson Clarified That He Did Not Support Federal Funding For Planned Parenthood. The Las Vegas Review Journal described the town hall as "chaotic, boisterous" and "unfriendly." After Heller's town hall statements, Heller's spokeswoman Megan Taylor said, "Senator Heller has worked hard to improve women's access to health care and the quality of care they receive... While he doesn't have a problem with many of the health care services Planned Parenthood offers to women, he is opposed to providing federal funding to any organization that performs abortions and is supported by taxpayer dollars; he has a long record that reflects his position." [Las Vegas Review-Journal, [4/20/17](#)]



Heller Voted Against Defunding Planned Parenthood In September 2015, But His Spokesperson Emphasized It Was “Not A Real Vote.” Along with Senate Democrats and several other Republicans, Heller voted against a Senate spending bill that “would have averted a government shutdown” and “cut off funding for embattled women’s health group Planned Parenthood.” That day, Heller spokesperson Michawn Rich downplayed the significance of the vote: “Senator Heller’s record is clear on pro-life issues. He voted twice to defund Planned Parenthood and just this past week voted in support of the Pain Capable legislation...Today’s vote was not a real vote - it was another example of Congress continuing to kick the can down the road.” [Washington Post, 9/24/15, via Nexis; Senator Heller office press release, 9/24/15, via Nexis]

Heller Tried To Use A Loophole To Dismantle ACA Contraceptive Coverage

Heller Cosponsored The Allowing Greater Access To Safe And Effective Contraception Act, Which Would Have Allowed Over-The-Counter Contraceptive Access. In a statement, Heller said, “As a husband and father of two daughters, I don’t believe women should be restricted in their access to health care. That’s why I am pleased to join Senators Ayotte and Gardner in support of this legislation. Women should have greater access to safe, effective, and affordable contraception. Allowing routinely-used contraceptives to be available over-the-counter gives female patients more control over their health care decisions. And, that’s the way it should be.” [Senator Heller statement, 5/21/15, via Nexis]

Heller’s Bill Would Have Used An Affordable Care Act Loophole To Force Women To Pay Out-Of-Pocket For Contraceptive Coverage. As ThinkProgress reported: “The mandatory contraception coverage under Obamacare applies only to birth control that requires a prescription. So if this bill resulted in various forms of routine-use contraception being sold over the counter, they would not have to be covered by insurance. [ThinkProgress, [5/21/15](#)]

ACOG President DeFrancesco Called The Bill “A Giant Step In The Wrong Direction.” Dr. Mark S. DeFrancesco, president of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) said The Allowing Greater Access To Safe And Effective Contraception Act “does not do much to increase access to contraception — and, in fact, includes details that will take a giant step in the wrong direction...instead of improving access, this bill would actually make more women have to pay for their birth control, and for some women, the cost would be prohibitive...We would welcome any legislation that would do what this proposal purports to do — help women. As it stands, however, we cannot support a plan that creates one route to access at the expense of another, more helpful route.” [The Denver Post, [5/22/15](#)]

NARAL’s Ilyse Hogue: “This Effort Is Nothing But Political Pandering To Trick Women And Families Into Thinking We Are Covered While Dismantling One Of The Most Critical Gains In The Affordable Care Act.” [The Denver Post, [5/22/15](#)]

Heller Sponsored Bipartisan Legislation To Support Pregnant Workers And Expand Access To Postpartum Depression Treatment

Heller Sponsored The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act In 2017 And 2015. Heller had sponsored a version of the bill in 2015, and reintroduced it in 2017 along with a bipartisan group of senators. In 2017, Heller said: “As a father of two daughters, I believe employers should provide reasonable



accommodations for pregnant workers — not penalize them for being pregnant. Women are an integral part of our workforce, and this legislation recognizes that women's medical needs must be addressed without imposing an unnecessary burden on employer.” [Congressional Documents and Publications, 5/11/17, via Nexis; Senator Kelly Ayotte news release, 6/5/15, via Nexis]

Heller Introduced The Bringing Postpartum Depression Out Of The Shadows Act Of 2015. Heller introduced this bill along with Senators Gillibrand, Markey, and Ayotte. Heller said, “Nearly 1 in 8 women experience postpartum depression. Thousands of women across the country battle this condition every year, and this legislation assures that women are able to get the screening and treatment they need. The good news is with the proper resources and early diagnosis, 90 percent of mothers with PPD are successfully treated.” [U.S. Fed News, 11/19/15, via Nexis]

National Right To Life Supported Heller’s 2012 Campaign With Almost \$20,000 In Independent Expenditures

According To OpenSecrets, National Right To Life Spent \$18,685 In Support Of Heller’s 2012 Campaign. NTRL spent the money as an independent expenditure. [OpenSecrets, accessed [7/5/16](#)]
Nevada Right To Life Supported Heller’s Appointment To The U.S. Senate, Calling Him A “Consistent Vote For Life.” Melissa Clement of Nevada Right to Life said, “Nevada Right to Life enthusiastically supports the appointment of Congressman Dean Heller to the US Senate. Heller has been a consistent vote for life and we expect nothing less in the future. We look forward to working with him as he enters the Senate and warmly congratulate him on his well-earned promotion.” [Life News, [5/9/11](#)]

Heller On Medicaid

Heller Supported Medicaid Cuts While In The House And Senate, Saying: “I’m Proud To Be The Only Member Of Congress Who Will Get To Vote For It Twice.” Heller first voted for Rep. Paul Ryan’s Medicaid-cutting budget in the House in April 2011 and then again in May 2011 after he was appointed to a Senate seat. He said: “I voted for it once. I’m not going to come over here and vote against it.” In the Senate, Heller also voted for a similar cuts proposed by Senator Pat Toomey. Both proposals would have cut Medicaid spending by turning Medicaid funding into block grants to states, which the CBO said “would most likely end up reducing benefits for those enrolled in the program.” [The New York Times, [4/15/11](#), The Washington Post, [4/5/11](#), The Associated Press State & Local Wire, [5/3/11](#), via Nexis; Senate Vote 79, [5/25/11](#); The Morning Call, [7/17/17](#)]

- **Heller On Medicaid And Medicare Budget Cuts: “The Country Right Now Is Broke. We’ve Literally Outspent Ourselves.”** According to the Elko Daily Free Press, when Heller met with people concerned about the budget, he said, “that if there is to be any discretionary spending, there need to be cuts to Medicare and Medicaid.” [Elko Daily Free Press, 4/16/11, via Nexis]

Heller Signed A Letter To The Republican Governors Association On Medicaid Reform. The letter proposed bringing together a “small roundtable of Governors” to discuss “the future of the Medicaid program.” It emphasized the “unsustainable” costs of Medicaid and aimed to begin the important dialogue regarding the future of the Medicaid program.” The senators wrote, “Even before the most recent



expansion resulting from the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Medicaid program was plagued by quality issues, states were stymied in their attempts to utilize innovative solutions to improve patient care, and both federal and state Medicaid spending was growing at unprecedented, and unsustainable levels.” Republicans from the Senate Finance Committee signed the letter: Senators Hatch, Grassley, Crapo, Roberts, Enzi, Cornyn, Thune, Burr, Isakson, Portman, Toomey, Coats, and Scott, in addition to Heller. [U.S. Senate Committee on Finance letter, 12/13/16, via Nexis]

Heller Is A Trump Supporter, But Isn't Always Willing To Admit It
Prior To The Election, Heller Refused To Take A Firm Stand: He “Vehemently”
Opposed Trump, But Would “Give Him A Chance”

In December 2015, Heller Said, “I Do Not Support Trump” But Followed With “I Will Support The Nominee Of My Party, Some A Little More Enthusiastically Than Others.” Heller then said, Trump “will not be the nominee for the Republican Party.”[Video: Washington Post, [12/14/15](#)]

In May 2016, Heller Said He “Vehemently Oppose[d]” Trump. Heller said of Trump at the time, “I vehemently oppose our nominee and some of the comments and issues he brought up during the campaign” but would not say if he would absolutely not vote for him. Instead he said, “What I’m committing to is voting against Hillary Clinton.” According to NBC News 4, Heller pointed out that Nevada voters can select “none of these candidates” on their ballots, though he did not say if he would. [NBC News 4, [5/4/16](#), National Review, [5/19/16](#)]

In June 2016, Heller Said Of Trump, “I’ll Give Him A Chance, But At This Point, I Have No Intentions Of Voting For Him.” Heller’s full comment was: “Today, I’m opposed to his campaign...He did a lot of damage. It’s very difficult for him, as far as I’m concerned, to recover from his previous comments. I’ll give him a chance, but at this point, I have no intentions of voting for him.”[Politico, [6/30/16](#)]

In August 2016, Under Pressure To Commit To Supporting Trump, Heller Said, “I’m Not There Yet. This Is A Man Who Denigrates Human Beings.” He emphasized “there are many things he has said that give me pause,” but also reiterated his opposition to Clinton. [Nevada Appeal, [8/16/16](#)]

In October 2016, Heller Said He Was “99 Percent Sure” He Would Not Vote For Trump. He made these comments following the release of the Access Hollywood video, when he also praised Rep. Joe Heck and Rep. Cresent Hardy for withdrawing their support for Trump because of the video. The *Las Vegas Sun* reported that Heller “wouldn’t go so far as to call on Republican congressional candidate Danny Tarkanian to do the same” as Heck and Hardy. [Las Vegas Sun, [10/8/16](#)]

Immediately After The Election, Heller Emphasized That His Opposition To Trump Was Based On Trump’s “Verbiage,” Not Policy

Heller On Trump: “I Supported Most Of His Issues...But I Didn’t Support His Verbiage.” Heller said this to explain that he was “not really worried about” the Trump-Pence administration being resentful of Heller’s lack of support. Heller said, “As a matter of fact, I was with [Vice President-elect Mike] Pence yesterday and Pence and I had a great conversation. There’s no hard feelings. It wasn’t a ‘mad’ or ‘not



supporting his agenda,' it was an issue of very strong verbiage that I have a very low tolerance for." [USA Today, [12/7/16](#)]

Heller Said He Did Not Endorse Trump Because Heller Had A “Very Low Tolerance For Abusive Language.” Heller on Trump: “One of the reasons why I was reluctant to endorse him this last election is I have a very, very low tolerance for abusive language. I have a very low tolerance for rank language and don't believe there is any room in this political atmosphere for that to occur. My positions aren't going to change.” [USA Today, [12/7/16](#)]

With Criticism Mounting In His 2017 Reelection Campaign, Dean Heller Ultimately Admitted To Voting For Trump

In December 2016, Heller Had Said “I Don’t Think Anybody Cares” Who I Voted For In The Presidential Election. [USA Today, [12/7/16](#)]

In 2017, Heller Faced Increasing Pressure From The Trump White House And A GOP Primary Opponent For Opposing Trump. At a July 2017 White House event, Trump threatened the future of Heller's career in an effort to pressure Heller to vote for Republican effort to gut the Affordable Care Act: “This was the one we were worried about. You weren't there. But you're gonna be. You're gonna be. Look, he wants to remain a senator, doesn't he?” Heller was seated next to Trump at the time. A month earlier, a “White House-sanctioned political organization” had launched a \$1 million campaign attacking Heller on healthcare. Heller's 2017 primary challenger Danny Tarkanian also criticized Heller as “one of the first 'Never Trumpers' in Nevada,” and said: “Now, even after President Trump's been elected, Dean Heller has obstructed his agenda.” [The Nevada Independent, [8/14/17](#), Politico, [6/27/17](#), CNN, [7/20/17](#); The Hill, [8/8/17](#)]

Heller Admitted He Voted For Donald Trump In The 2016 Presidential Election. In August 2017, Heller texted a reporter with The Nevada Independent “Yes, I voted for Donald Trump.” [The Nevada Independent, [8/14/17](#)]

Trump Had Donated \$4,500 To Heller's Campaigns

Donald Trump Donated To Heller In 2012 And 2015. Trump contributed \$2,000 to Heller For Senate on March 31st, 2015, and had previously donated \$2,500 to Heller For Senate on February 3rd, 2012. [FEC.gov, [3/31/15](#); FEC.gov, [2/3/12](#)]

In July 2015, Heller Said He Donated Campaign Contributions From Donald Trump To Charity. Heller donated the money to charity to show his opposition to Trump's comments calling Mexicans “rapists.” An Associated Press article only reported Trump's \$2,000 donation to Heller in 2015 and noted that Heller's spokesman Neal Patel did not identify to which charity Heller gave the money. [The Washington Examiner, [7/8/15](#), The Associated Press, [7/8/15](#)]

Heller Said He Works “Very Closely” With Trump And Supported His Agenda



Heller After Trump’s Campaign Victory: “I Want Trump To Succeed. Trump Is President Of The United States, I Want Him To Succeed And I Think We Need To Give Him The Chance To Succeed.” [USA Today, [12/7/16](#)]

VIDEO: Heller Said He Works “Very Closely” With Trump And His Administration. In an interview with NBC News, Heller said, “I work very closely with the White House and with President Trump. I talked with him last week on the phone. We’re in a very good place right now working together. We have our differences. You know, I know that the President wakes up every morning trying to figure out what’s best for America, and I wake up every morning trying to figure out what’s best for Nevada. There’s going to be inherent conflicts in that, but at the end of the day, hopefully we’re close. We have our disagreements, we’ll talk it out, which we did on healthcare, and we’re on the same place at the end of the day.” [NBC News, [8/31/17](#), via YouTube; NBC News, [8/28/17](#)]

VIDEO: Heller on Trump’s Agenda: “A Lot Of It I Can Support.” Heller discussed Trump in an interview with NBC News, saying, “I don’t respond to his tweets, I respond to what he does, and right now, I think most of what he’s done right now has been pretty conservative and frankly 99 percent of his agenda that I’ve seen out there has been conservative and a lot of it I can support.” [NBC News, [8/31/17](#), via YouTube; NBC News, [8/28/17](#)]

- **Heller’s Comments Came Just Days After He Trump Pardoned Sheriff Joe Arpaio.** Heller’s August 28th interview with NBC came just days after Trump pardoned Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Arpaio “became known for his treatment of those he held in an outdoor jail known as ‘Tent City,’ where he made people wear pink underwear and work in chain gangs.” He had been convicted criminal contempt for ignoring a court order in a racial profiling case. Of the pardon, Heller said he didn’t “believe anybody’s above the law.” [NBC News, [8/31/17](#), via YouTube; NBC News, [8/28/17](#); CNN, [8/27/17](#)]

Heller: “When President Trump Or My Party Is Right For Nevada, I’ll Support Them. But When They’re Wrong For Nevada, I’ll Try To Change Their Minds. I’ve Always Put Nevada First.” [The Nevada Independent, [4/18/17](#)]

- **As Of August 2017, Heller Voted With Trump’s Position 89.6% Of The Time.** Based on Trump’s support in Nevada in 2016, FiveThirtyEight believed Heller should have voted with Trump only 47.8% of the time. [FiveThirtyEight, accessed [8/29/17](#)]



Dean Heller Laughed Next To Trump During A Meeting On Healthcare. [Los Angeles Times, [7/25/17](#)]

Rep. Jim Renacci (OH-Sen)

Renacci pledged to support a constitutional amendment to ban abortion. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Renacci responded yes to the question, “Will you support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning abortion except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Renacci pledged to support federal legislation “giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter” with no exceptions for rape or incest. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Renacci answered yes to the question “Will you support federal legislation giving parents the right to stop any abortion from being performed on their minor daughter, except to save the life of the mother?” Other candidates indicated their support for rape and incest exceptions in their answers to this question. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Renacci pledged to support judicial nominees who “will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance candidate survey, Renacci responded yes to the question “Will you support nominees to the United States Supreme Court and the lower federal courts who will uphold the constitutional right to life of every human person, born and unborn.” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]



Renacci pledged to support legislation to remove “federal courts jurisdiction” over abortion issues. On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Renacci responded yes to the question, “Will you support legislation which, under Article III, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution, would remove from the federal courts jurisdiction over the question of abortion?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Renacci pledged to support a bill to define life as beginning “at the moment of conception.” On the 2016 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Renacci answered yes to the question, “Would you support and cosponsor a Life at Conception Act defining that life begins at the moment of conception thereby resolving for all time, as stated by the Supreme Court in Roe v. Wade, “the difficult question of when life begins?” [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 4, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Gubernatorial Candidates

Steve Pearce (NM Gov)

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Pearce expressed his support for a federal ban on the distribution of ella, a form of emergency contraception, and other medications referred to as “home abortion drugs.” On the 2014 National Pro-Life Alliance survey, Pearce answered yes to the question, “Should the federal government bar the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486 and “ella?” On the 2016 survey, Pearce against affirmed his support for a federal ban of the distribution of “home abortion drugs” like RU-486” though the 2016 survey did not ask about ella. [National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2016 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#), National Pro-Life Alliance candidates Survey, 2014 Federal Candidates, Region 2, accessed [5/10/18](#)]

Adam Laxalt (NW Gov)

Laxalt Signed Onto An Amicus Brief Supporting NIFLA In *NIFLA v. Becerra*. Laxalt supported NIFLA, a network of fake women’s health centers, through a 22-state coalition signing onto an amicus brief led by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. The brief aimed to defend “informed consent” laws governing abortion: “Approximately 29 states, including many of the amici States, have laws requiring a physician to provide certain information to a patient when obtaining informed consent to perform an abortion procedure. The Ninth Circuit treated these types of laws as similar to the California law at issue in this case, but the amici States write to clarify that these laws are significantly different in dispositive ways.” [Brief for the State of Texas, et al., [1/16/18](#), via SCOTUSblog, The Nevada Independent, [3/21/18](#)]

Laxalt Visited First Choice Pregnancy Services, A Fake Women’s Health Center In Las Vegas. [Twitter.com, [2/21/18](#), The Nevada Independent, [3/21/18](#)]



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Laxalt Attended The 11th Annual Friends For Life Dinner Hosted By The Pro-Life League Of Nevada And Gave Money To The Organization. In March 2017, Laxalt posted on Twitter and Facebook that he was “honored to be attending the 11th Annual Friends for Life dinner with my wife, Jaime!” On Facebook, he continued on to say, “Congratulations to Don Nelson, this year’s Champion for Life award recipient. Thank you Melissa Clement and the Pro-Life League of Nevada for another successful event!” Each post included a picture of the event. The Pro-Life League of Nevada advertised the event as “an evening with friends, old and new, in the pro-life movement.” Laxalt paid \$150 to the Pro-Life League of Nevada on February 27, 2015. Laxalt categorized the expense as “other miscellaneous expenses.” [Twitter.com, [3/4/17](#), Facebook.com, [3/4/17](#), Pro-Life League of Nevada, accessed [10/23/17](#), Nevada Secretary of State, [1/15/16](#)]

News Outlets Have Referred To Laxalt As “Pro-Life” And “Against Abortion.” In a 2014 interview with Laxalt, National Review editor-at-large Kathryn Jean Lopez stated to Laxalt, “You’re pro-life and the father, along with your wife, of a young child.” Laxalt did not respond to the statement either way. In 2014, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported that Laxalt “is against abortion” but that Laxalt said he would “follow the law.” [Las Vegas Review-Journal, 12/11/14, via Nexis, .][National Review, [2/24/14](#)]

Laxalt Filed An Amicus Brief In Little Sisters Of The Poor V. Burwell. Laxalt filed the brief with the Supreme Court along with 19 other states. Laxalt said, “Religious organizations serve our communities in countless ways, and their contributions should be supported, not impeded by the government... organizations should not be fined for living in accordance with their sincerely held religious convictions. This brief encourages the Supreme Court to take the necessary steps toward ensuring that our government and our courts do not force people of faith to violate their religious beliefs.” In a statement, Laxalt described the Little Sisters of the Poor case: “The Little Sisters and co-petitioners sued the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in response to the Affordable Care Act’s contraceptive mandate. The mandate requires religious nonprofits such as the Little Sisters to provide employees with



all available forms of contraception at no cost.” [Nevada Attorney General press release, 8/25/17, via Nexis]

Laxalt: “I Am Proud To Stand With The Little Sisters Of The Poor” In Their Lawsuit Against The HHS Contraceptive Mandate. Laxalt also said, “I am grateful for Ted Cruz’s tireless leadership to protect the rights” of the Little Sisters of the Poor.” [Reno Gazette Journal, [2/22/16](#)]

Laxalt Questioned Planned Parenthood’s Nevada Clinics On The Type Of Abortions They Performed And Their Involvement With Fetal Tissue Donation. Laxalt sent a letter to Planned Parenthood stating “Please confirm in writing that the Nevada facilities do not provide surgical abortions. Moreover, please also confirm that the Nevada facilities do not have or participate in tissue donation programs and confirm to this office that PP’s assertions are true in regards to the PP Nevada facilities.” Laxalt opened the letter by citing videos from the anti-choice sting group Center for Medical Progress. Independent analysis, mainstream news outlets and many state investigations identified these videos as deceptive and cleared Planned Parenthood of any wrongdoing. Laxalt ended the letter asking Planned Parenthood officials “to meet to with him ‘further discuss PP operations in Nevada.’” [RalstonFlash.com, 9/16/15, via Nexis, Associated Press State & Local, 9/17/15, via Nexis, Letter from Adam Laxalt, [9/15/15](#), Media Matters for America, [8/31/15](#)]

The Nevada Democratic Party Criticized Laxalt For “Using The Attorney General’s Office To Push A Partisan Ideological Agenda.” The Nevada Democratic Party stated, “Just like his frivolous immigration lawsuit earlier this year - the sole purpose of which was to tear families apart - Adam Laxalt is once again using the Attorney General’s office to push a partisan ideological agenda. Nevada women who rely on the preventative health care services Planned Parenthood provides are not pawns to be used by Adam Laxalt to burnish his Republican primary credentials in his inevitable future runs for higher office. Adam Laxalt should stop using his office to advance his blind ambition and partisan, ideological agenda.” [RalstonFlash.com, 9/16/15, via Nexis, Nevada Democratic Party press release, 9/16/15, via Nexis]

Laxalt Closed His Inquiry Into Planned Parenthood. Laxalt’s spokeswoman said, “After carefully reviewing baby tissue and body part donation concerns involving Planned Parenthood, on September 15, 2015, the Attorney General’s Office sent a letter to Nevada’s facilities inquiring about compliance with state and federal law. Subsequently, lawyers representing Planned Parenthood confirmed that Nevada’s facilities do not participate in body tissue donation programs, and are in compliance with the law. The Attorney General’s Office is satisfied with the response, and the inquiry is now closed.” [RalstonFlash.com, 12/3/15, via Nexis]

Laxalt Hired Anti-Choice Lawyer Lawrence VanDyke As His Solicitor General. According to the New York Times, VanDyke “placed a special emphasis on writing amicus briefs supporting gun rights and anti-abortion laws” when he was previously solicitor general in Montana. With Montana Attorney General Tim Fox, VanDyke wrote a brief arguing in favor of twenty-week abortion bans and suggested that *Roe v. Wade* should be “revisited” due to “recent, compelling evidence of fetal pain.” VanDyke was also a Blackstone fellow with Alliance for Defending Freedom, which “inspired a distinctly Christian worldview in every area of law.” Laxalt advisor Robert Uithoven said, “Laxalt picked Lawrence because of his stellar resume, depth of directly on-point experience, and the fact that he came highly recommended by many



who have had a chance to observe his work first-hand.” [RalstonFlash.com, 12/10/14, via Nexis; Nevada Democratic Party press release, 12/10/14, via Nexis, Las Vegas Review-Journal, 12/11/14, via Nexis, New York Times, [11/2/14](#), Amicus Brief from the states of Ohio, Montana, and 14 other states in *Horne v. Isaacson*, [October 2013](#)]

Laxalt Received Large Donations From Major Anti-Choice Donors

Sean Fieler

Sean Fieler Donated \$20,000 To Laxalt’s Campaigns. Sean Fieler gave \$10,000 to Laxalt’s campaign on January 20th, 2014 and another \$10,000 on December 28th, 2016. [Nevada Secretary of State, [5/20/14](#), Nevada Secretary of State, [1/16/17](#)]

Fieler And His Foundation, The Chiaroscuro Foundation, Has Funded Susan B. Anthony List, Students for Life, Live Action, And State And Local Right To Life Groups. Chiaroscuro Foundation gave Students for Life \$15,000 in 2011, \$77,500 in 2012, \$16,000 in 2013, and \$37,000 in 2014. The Chiaroscuro Foundation gave the Susan B. Anthony List Education Fund \$15,000 in 2011, \$125,000 in 2012, \$40,000 in 2013, \$40,000 in 2014, and \$25,000 in 2015. Fieler himself has also donated to SBA List’s PAC, Women Speak Out, giving \$385,946 in 2014. Chiaroscuro Foundation gave \$7,500 to the Vermont Right to Life Education Fund and \$460 to Wisconsin Right to Life in 2013 and \$3,500 to the Fordham Respect Life Club and \$1,000 to Choose Life at Yale in 2011. The Chiaroscuro Foundation gave Live Action \$100,000 in 2011.[Chiaroscuro Foundation, accessed [12/1/17](#), Susan B. Anthony List 990, [2015](#), via Guidestar, Chiaroscuro Foundation, accessed [12/1/17](#), Center for Responsive Politics, accessed [12/18/17](#)]

Fieler Was Also An SBA List Board Member And Opposed “Gay Relationships.” Fieler previously was a board member and donated “from \$200,000 to \$250,000” annually to the anti-gay marriage Institute for American Values, but left the board after they began to support gay marriage. Fieler said that there is “a very harmful myth about the gay lifestyle. It suggests that gay relationships lend themselves to monogamy, stability, health and parenting in the same way heterosexual relationships do. That’s not true.” [New York Times, [1/29/13](#), New York Times, [1/29/13](#), Susan B. Anthony List 990, [2015](#), via Guidestar]

Sean Fieler’s Foundation Gave The Becket Fund, An Anti-Choice Legal Group, At Least \$100,000 A Year From 2012 To 2015. The Chiaroscuro Foundation gave the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty \$180,000 in 2010, \$100,000 in 2011, \$110,000 in 2012, \$260,000 in 2013, \$200,000 in 2014, and \$100,000 in 2015. [Chiaroscuro Foundation, accessed [12/1/17](#)]

Fieler’s Foundation Donated At Least \$295,000 To Americans United For Life. According to a funding breakdown on the Chiaroscuro Foundation’s website, between 2010 and 2013 the foundation donated \$295,000 to Americans United for Life. [Chiaroscuro Foundation, accessed [12/1/17](#); New York Times, [1/29/13](#), New York Times, [1/29/13](#), Chiaroscuro Foundation, accessed [12/1/17](#)]



Fielers' Foundation Funded Fake Women's Health Centers. The Chiaroscuro Foundation gave Bethany Christian Services \$20,000 in 2012, \$10,000 in 2013, and \$70,000 in 2014. Bethany Christian Services is an adoption agency that operates fake women's health centers across the country to convince women to go through with their pregnancies and give their babies up for adoption instead of having abortions. The Chiaroscuro Foundation gave EMC Frontline \$175,000 in 2009, \$515,000 in 2010, \$425,000 in 2011, and \$75,000 in 2012. EMC Frontline, which stands for Expectant Mother Care, "is New York City's oldest and largest network of pregnancy centers." The Chiaroscuro Foundation gave Avail NYC \$51,500 in 2014, and \$50,000 in 2015. Avail NYC is a fake women's health center in New York City. [ProLifeInterns.com, accessed [12/1/17](#), EMC Frontline, accessed [12/1/17](#), Chiaroscuro Foundation, accessed [12/1/17](#), Avail NYC, accessed [12/1/17](#)] [The Nation, [8/26/09](#), Chiaroscuro Foundation, accessed [12/1/17](#)]

Rebekah Mercer

Rebekah Mercer Donated \$10,000 To Laxalt In December 2016. [Nevada Secretary of State, [1/16/17](#)]

The Mercers Were Also Major Supporters Of Trump's Presidential Campaign And Have Close Ties To Steve Bannon And Breitbart. Robert Mercer and his daughter Rebekah were major donors in the 2016 election and influential in the Trump campaign and White House. Rebekah took over the Mercer Family Foundation in 2008. The Wall Street Journal and The Atlantic reported that "two of the Mercer family's confidantes, Steve Bannon and Kellyanne Conway, were installed atop the Trump campaign following a recommendation from Ms. Mercer." In 2011, the Mercers "bought nearly 50% of Breitbart News for \$10 million," after meetings with Andrew Breitbart and Steve Bannon. The Atlantic called Bannon the Mercers' "top political guru" and the New Yorker wrote that "as far back as 2012, Bannon was the Mercers' de-facto political advisor." [The Wall Street Journal, [1/8/17](#), the Atlantic, [1/27/17](#), The New Yorker, [3/27/17](#)]

The Mercer Family Funded Susan B. Anthony List Entities. Robert Mercer gave \$500,000 to Women Speak Out PAC in 2014. The Mercer Family Foundation made a \$300,000 donation to the "Susan B. Anthony Education Fund" in 2015. On The Mercer Family Foundation 990 form from 2015, the Susan B. Anthony Education Fund is listed at the same address as SBA List, 1200 New Hampshire Ave NW, Washington, DC. Charlotte Lozier Institute is often identified as the Susan B. Anthony List Education Fund. [Guidestar, accessed [12/19/17](#), Mercer Family Foundation 990 form, [2015](#), via Guidestar, Center for Responsive Politics, accessed [4/22/16](#)]

The Mercer Family Foundation Also Funded Anti-Choice Legal Groups And Conservative Organizations. The Mercer Family Foundation donated \$250,000 to the Becket Fund in 2015, \$250,000 in 2014, and \$250,000 in 2013. The Mercer Family Foundation donated \$2.3 million to the Federalist Society in 2015, \$2,050,000 in 2014 and \$1,600,000 in 2013. The foundation also donated to the Heritage Foundation and the Cato Institute. The foundation gave \$25,000 to the Council for National Policy in 2014 and \$50,000 in 2013. [Mercer Family Foundation 990 form, [2015](#), via Guidestar, Mercer Family Foundation 990 form, [2014](#), via Guidestar, Mercer Family Foundation 990 form, [2013](#), via Guidestar]



The Uihleins

Richard And Elizabeth Uihlein Donated \$20,000 To Laxalt In 2016. Richard Uihlein donated \$10,000 to Laxalt in January 2016. Elizabeth Uihlein donated \$10,000 to Laxalt in June 2016. [Nevada Secretary of State, accessed [4/2/18](#)]

Richard Uihlein Withdrew Support From Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner Because Of Uihlein's Opposition To Abortion. Politico reported, "Richard Uihlein, a little-known Republican donor who had until recently been one of Rauner's biggest supporters. After a fallout with the governor over abortion policy, Uihlein gave \$2.5 million to Ives in a single week this past January — essentially bankrolling her campaign to defeat Rauner in a Republican primary on Tuesday." [Politico, [3/19/18](#)]

Foster Friess

Foster Friess Donated \$10,000 To Laxalt In December 2017. In 2012, Friess told Andrea Mitchell on MSNBC, "On this contraceptive thing, my Gosh it's such [sic] inexpensive...You know, back in my days, they'd use Bayer aspirin for contraceptives. The gals put it between their knees, and it wasn't that costly." [Politico, [2/16/12](#), Nevada Secretary of State, accessed [4/2/18](#)]

Laxalt Has Extensive Connections To Other Anti-Choice, Conservative Leaders

Laxalt's Morning In Nevada PAC Hosted An Annual Basque Fry Event Featuring Conservative, Anti-Choice Speakers. According to the Las Vegas Review-Journal, Laxalt and friends founded Morning in Nevada PAC in 2015 "to help fund conservative causes, candidates and organizations." The group's signature event is an annual Basque Fry. New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez, Nevada Rep. Mark Amodei, and American Conservative Union chairman Matt Schlapp spoke at the 2017 event. In 2016 speakers included Milwaukee County Sheriff David A. Clarke, U.S. Senator Tom Cotton, Ambassador John Bolton, and U.S. Congressman Joe Heck. In 2015, four Republican presidential candidates spoke at the event: Ted Cruz, Ben Carson, Scott Walker, and Carly Fiorina. [The Nevada Independent, [8/25/17](#), Las Vegas Review-Journal, [8/14/16](#); Morning in Nevada PAC, accessed [2/15/16](#), Politico, [8/15/15](#)]

Laxalt Supported The Trump-Pence Ticket In The General Election And Congratulated Trump And Pence On Their Electoral Victories. After the 2016 presidential election, Laxalt tweeted, "Congratulations @realDonaldTrump and @mike_pence! Tremendous and well earned victory for President-elect Trump and VP-elect Pence!" Laxalt had previously praised Pence and expressed support for him as Vice-President. Laxalt tweeted a picture of himself with Mike Pence and said "Honored to be with the Governor of Indiana and the future Vice President of the United States @mike_pence." [Twitter.com, [7/21/16](#), Twitter.com, [11/9/16](#), Reno Gazette-Journal, [5/4/16](#)]



Pence Was Scheduled To Give The Keynote Speech At Laxalt's 2017 Basque Fry. Pence cancelled his appearance due to Hurricane Harvey's impact on Texas. [The Nevada Independent, [8/25/17](#)] [Nevada Dems, [5/11/17](#)]



[Twitter.com, [7/21/16](#)]

John Bolton PAC Donated \$5000 To Laxalt In December 2017. Trump appointed Bolton as his national security advisor in March 2018. [The Washington Post, [3/22/18](#), Nevada Secretary of State, accessed [4/2/18](#), Bolton PAC, accessed [4/2/18](#)]

Laxalt Endorsed Ted Cruz For President In The Republican Primary, Fundraised And Campaigned With Him. When Laxalt endorsed Cruz's presidential campaign, Cruz called Laxalt his friend: "I am proud that Adam is a friend. I'm proud that he is sharing our campaign here in the great state of Nevada." Laxalt introduced Ted Cruz at an Americans for Prosperity event in Las Vegas during Cruz's presidential



campaign. “Nevada Attorney General Adam Laxalt, who in January announced the Silver State would join 25 other states in a lawsuit against an executive action on immigration by President Barack Obama, introduced Cruz to a crowd of about 250 people.” Laxalt’s campaign paid for joint fundraising direct mail for himself and Ted Cruz. Cruz also attended Laxalt’s Basque Fry in 2015, along with Scott Walker, Ben Carson, and Carly Fiorina. [Las Vegas Review-Journal, 8/14/15, via Nexis, Nevada Democratic Party press release, 1/13/16, via Nexis, Las Vegas Review-Journal, 2/21/16, via Nexis, The Nevada Independent, [6/19/17](#), Las Vegas Review-Journal, 8/14/15, via Nexis; The National Journal, 8/17/15, via Nexis]