

Prolife in Brief



What is Morally Wrong Cannot be Legally Right

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Prolife Annual Plant Sale
Lunch Room
April 30-May 1
8:00am-6:00pm (Sat)
8:00am-1:00pm (Sun)



The Women's Health Protection Act passed by the House of Representatives in September, 2021 failed in the Senate on February 28, 2022 by a closure vote of 46 to 48 vote. The Senate vote fell mainly on party lines with one Democrat, Joe Manchin of W. Va., voting against.

The Women's Health Care Protection Act is the most radical abortion bill ever put before the U.S. Senate. This bill was intended to circumvent any ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn *Roe v Wade*.

The *Roe v Wade* decision allows abortions up to 24-28 weeks of life. Or, put another way up, to approximately 7 months of growth in the womb. So, cruel dismemberment and saline solution methods are options for an abortion up to this point. A child growing in the womb can feel pain at 20 weeks and pain receptors are present at 8 weeks. At 20 weeks the child feels painful stimulus in the same manner as an adult. (See the Charlotte Lozier Institute: lozier.institute.org/fact-sheet-science-of-fetal-pain.)

If the WHPA had passed and was signed by the president, it would have enshrined in federal law the "right to abortion" up to birth. Furthermore, it would have been binding in all the states. It would have nullified all state laws that put limits on abortion.

Opportunities to sign petitions encouraging senators to vote against the WHPA came from the USCCB, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (www.usccb.org) and the Missouri Catholic Conference (mocatholic@mocatholic.org). If you do not already receive updates from these two sights, you are encouraged to sign up on line to receive their updates. There is no charge for either site. This is one way to be an active catholic citizen in the cause for life.

(Continued WHPA) We must be ever vigilant, active and vocal. Those confused in their belief that the mother's right to choose trumps the right to life for her child, will make additional attempts to codify abortion into federal law. **Content: National Catholic Register March 1, 2022 and EWTN ProLife Weekly Program.**

New Supreme Court Justice?

On February 25, 2022, President Biden nominated Ketanji Brown Jackson to replace retiring Justice Stephen Breyer. During her hearing she responded to questions such as: "When does life begin, in your opinion?" Jackson responded, "I don't know" and laughed for a moment. When pressed, she told Senator Kennedy, "I have personal, religious and otherwise beliefs that have nothing to do with the law in terms of when life begins." He asked her what her "personal belief" on the question was, and she replied, "I have a religious view ... that I set aside when I am ruling on cases." (NCR Mar. 25,2022)

Jackson wrote an amicus brief on behalf of abortion providers who supported a "buffer-zone" for women approaching an abortion facility. She called out prolife protestors as "noisy in your face protestors, thrusting disturbing photographs in the faces of abortion seekers".

Her appointment would not alter the current 6-3 split of the Court. However, she is viewed as very left and progressive. As for her credentials, she clerked for Justice Breyer, served as a public defender and as a federal district court judge. (NCR 3-26-22)

Arizona and Colorado

Arizona passed a bill to ban abortions after 15 weeks with the exception of a medical emergency. The bill is similar to the Mississippi bill now before the Supreme Court that could overturn Roe. The AZ bill makes abortion a felony for physicians, but assigns no criminal punishment for the maternal patient. Physicians could lose their license to practice, be suspended and fined. The Bill passed 31-26. Gov. Ducey has previously advocated for anti-abortion restrictions but the bill has not yet been signed into law. States that have similar anti-abortion laws include: Idaho, Oklahoma, S. Dakota, West Virginia and Florida.

Colorado Bill, HB-1279, passed by a 20-15 vote. It states citizens have the right to an abortion or to continue a pregnancy, as well as the right to use or refuse contraceptive care. It prohibits the state and local governments from denying, restricting, interfering with, or discriminating against reproductive rights. The legislation also declares that a fertilized egg, embryo or fetus does not have personhood rights under state law. This act could force health care workers to participate in abortions against their conscientious objections. Thus, the need to remain involved through votes, petitions and standing up for Human and Religious rights has never been more essential. We cannot be the silent majority.