

RESOURCE ROUNDUP

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The Hippocratic Resource

(A Statewide Organization of Louisiana Physicians, Dentists, Nurses, Therapists and Other Health Professionals)

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"I will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked ... I will not give to a woman an instrument to produce an abortion"

Dear Colleague:

We have both good news and bad news as this New Year of 2009 A.D. begins. A synopsis follows, and we urge you to take whatever actions you can in the direction of preserving our right to practice according to the Hippocratic Oath and moral imperatives. Other than that, a HAPPY NEW YEAR 2009 A.D., again!

W. "Al" Krotoski, M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H. and Francis Rinaudo, Jr., D.D.S.

President Bush's Legacy of Right of Conscience: Threatened

Leaving behind a legacy of the right of professional conscience, President George W. Bush and DHHS Secretary Mike Leavitt promulgated a set of conscience regulations for health professionals and others involved in medical and reproductive decisions; these were published in the *Federal Register* on 12/19/2008 (Doc. 2008-30134). A formalization of the earlier Hyde-Weldon Amendment, the regulations ban forcing physicians and others to perform abortions, and thus to

violate the Hippocratic Oath. The 127-page document can be found on the internet at

http://www.federalregister.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2008-30134_PL.pdf. Tragically, however, according to

The Wall Street Journal, the Obama team is looking to reverse this action that "allows health care providers to refuse participation in any practice they object to on moral grounds" [Physicians for Life.org]. The pro-life website, Life News.com reports that (*next*)

"Abortion Advocates Have Three Options to Kill Bush [Conscience] Rule

Washington, DC (LifeNews.com) -- Once Barack Obama becomes the next president ... abortion advocates have three options to use **to kill a new Bush rule that protects pro-life doctors and medical centers.** "The new rule, which takes effect on January 20, probably won't stay in place for long, now that pro-abortion forces control the White House and Congress. Obama himself has criticized protecting medical professionals, as have top pro-abortion members of Congress and leading abortion advocacy groups. When they get the chance, the abortion advocates will have three options to potentially use to kill the new rules. Sens. Hillary Clinton of New York and Patty Murray of Washington have already [put forward legislation](#) that would

overturn the rule by preventing the Department of Health and Human Services from implementing it. Reps. Diana DeGette of Colorado and Louis Slaughter (!) of New York have filed a companion bill in the House." **Please contact our (new) legislators to request their strong opposition to these bills:**

Sen. Mary Landrieu: Tel: 202-224-5824. FAX: 202-224-9735

Rep. Bill Cassidy, M.D.: Tel: 202-225-3901. FAX: 202-225-7313

Rep. Anh Joseph Cao: Tel: 202-225-6636. FAX: 202-225-1988

Rep. John Fleming, M.D. Tel: 202-225-2777. FAX: 202-225-8039

We must actively educate Congress that our ancient right to practice Medicine for the objective good of our patients must not be illegitimately negated!

Catholic Bishops Approve Blessing for Child in Womb; Vatican Issues New IVF Instruction

After receiving numerous requests from individual dioceses throughout the United States, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a formal

"Blessing of a Child in the Womb," thus clearly underscoring the moral parameter of the biologic fact of the humanity of the unborn child from his or her (*next p.*)

Roster Change: (*new information in italics*)
(Information removed to protect members' privacy)

earliest beginnings. The concept of intrauterine humanity, long a cardinal basis for Christian respect for pregnant women and their children, has its obvious counterpart and biblical source, as set forth by Jeremiah the prophet, "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you ..." (Jer 1:5).

A new bioethics instruction, *Dignitatis personae*, was issued by the Vatican in mid-December, 2008. Building on *Donum vitae*, a predecessor issued in 1987, the new instruction stresses the importance of the dignity of the human person as the basis for its conclusions that fertilization *in vitro* (IVF), and even later "rescuing" of

frozen "excess" embryos by infertile couples, are ethically unacceptable. IVF violates human dignity, inevitably produces "excess" embryos that must be frozen in liquid nitrogen (500,000 presently in the U.S.), and often leads to intentional "fetal reduction" (abortion). "Rescuing," though often of praiseworthy motive, presents similar problems to IVF, and also is not in accord with the nature of "human procreation ... [as] a personal act of a husband and a wife, which is not capable of substitution." Such proscriptions notwithstanding, *Dignitatis personae* **strongly supports the ethical use of science, including "adult" stem cell methodologies that use stem cells not of embryonic origin.**

Thanks to generous donations from our members, we will be displaying the following billboard at two locations: (1) I-12 near Denham Springs, East-facing, and (2) I-10 near Breaux Bridge, also East-facing

ABORTION:

49 MILLION DEAD

KILLING OUR CHILDREN KILLS OUR FUTURE



The Hippocratic Resource www.LaDocs4Life.org

A pair of letters recently published by Resource members in The Advocate, Baton Rouge, LA:

October 18, 2008

January 2, 2009