

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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www.LaDocs4Life.org or www.LaHealthProfs4Life.org

"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:

A year has gone by since our last "dues" donation request, so we must again ask for your financial support. The already high costs of communication (copying, mailing, etc.) continue to rise, while placement of billboards along interstate highways in Louisiana is a very high-cost item (even at reduced rates based on our non-profit status and Hippocratic, culture-of-life messages); however, that the latter attract attention is attested to by telephone calls and e-mails received from the community, both medical and other. A return envelope will be included with the "hard" copy of this issue, due to arrive by USPS soon; if you have already contributed to our joint effort, please use the envelope to return the information requested regarding information about our forthcoming "Gathering" (see below). God bless!

W. "Al" Krotoski, M.D., etc., and Francis Rinaudo, Jr., D.D.S.

Annual Report and Outlook; Physician's Right of Conscience

With this issue, we are including our annual report. You will note that *The Resource* has been busy and fully occupied with our purposes. Among collaborative successes during 2008, we can list the passage of two key pieces of legislation in the Louisiana Legislature's last session, i.e. HB 370 (Henry), to ban funding of human cloning, and HB 861 (W. Hines), to promote umbilical cord blood- and placental stem-cell use and research; the bills were signed into law by Governor Bobby Jindal as Acts 486 and 163, respectively. Unfortunately, SB 738 (Morrish), to ban *animal-human hybridization*, was withdrawn by the author, so that battle we must fight again. Also unfortunately, the coming year(s) will be even more challenging, as we must now scramble just to *retain* virtually all incremental gains toward a culture of life made in the last 36 years (see next page). **Some, including restrictions on (taxpayer) funding for abortions abroad, and on destruction of human embryos for embryonic stem cell research (yet to yield a single clinical application!) have already been nullified by Executive Order, and our traditional right to practice medicine according to our (Hippocratic) consciences is also under serious threat of nullification.** *Please use the appended Louisiana congressional delegation contact information list to good effect!*

April "Gathering"

[Specifics deleted]

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER!

(Information removed to protect member privacy)

Changes and Dangers: ***ACTION REQUESTED***

As ominous signs of things to come, the Obama administration and new Congress have already indicated a negative turn in regard to issues of respect for life: First, **President Obama**, by *Executive Order*, **froze all of President Bush's regulations**, including newly promulgated rights of conscience rules, and then quietly lifted a ban (the Mexico City Policy) on U.S. taxpayer funding for abortion-promoting international organizations. Second, the U.S. Senate voted **against reinstatement of that Policy**; as taxpayers, we now pay for those abortions. (U.S. Sen. Mary Landrieu voted against reinstatement). And third, although the Senate voted in favor of H.R. 2, the State Children's Health Insurance (SCHIP) legislation, it **failed to pass an amendment** by Sen. Orrin Hatch to codify the Unborn Child Rule. (Sen. Landrieu voted against the unborn child).

Clearly, respect for human life and the culture of life

have seriously diminished in the new administration, and a physician's right to practice medicine according to his/her professional, Hippocratic conscience is still under imminent threat. Unfortunately, we cannot afford the luxury to think that things won't get worse! (See appended *ACTION ALERT*)

Please write a letter or e-mail to our Congressional Representatives and leaders immediately [debates begin Feb. 23rd] requesting that they **"not use the omnibus appropriations bill to weaken or rescind longstanding provisions that protect U.S. taxpayers from being forced to fund and promote the destruction of human life,"** and that they **"retain the Hyde amendment, the Hyde/Weldon conscience protection amendment, the Dickey/Wicker embryo protection amendment, and the Kemp/Kasten amendment to prevent coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization."**

Latest U.S. Abortion Statistics

A summary of the most recently available U.S. abortion statistics from the CDC is appended. A conservative total of innocent young human lives destroyed since the imposition of Roe v Wade in 1973 is 49 million. Of note is that, although overall reported abortion numbers stayed at approximately the same level of 1.1 million annually between 1999 and 2005, the proportion of reported non-surgical ("medical") abortions has risen from 0.01% to 9.9%

over the same period, with doubling over the last 3 years. Simultaneously, the proportions of both unmarried women having abortions and abortees having had three or more previous live births have risen significantly. The ratio of White: Black: Other abortions reported has remained constant at 1: 2.3: 1.8 over the 6-year interval (see www.LaDocs4Life.org, Abortion Statistics).

2009 March for Life, Washington, DC

The 2009 March for Life in Washington, DC drew together an estimated 100,000 pro-life adherents from all over the U.S.A. (including **some 500 youth from Louisiana**), on a brilliant and cool January 22, the 36th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision. The totally peaceful and respectful, if sometimes youthfully ebullient, marchers first rallied on the Mall, then slowly made their way to the Supreme Court before dispersing, many to meet with members of their congressional delegations. The Louisiana marchers gathered at the Russell

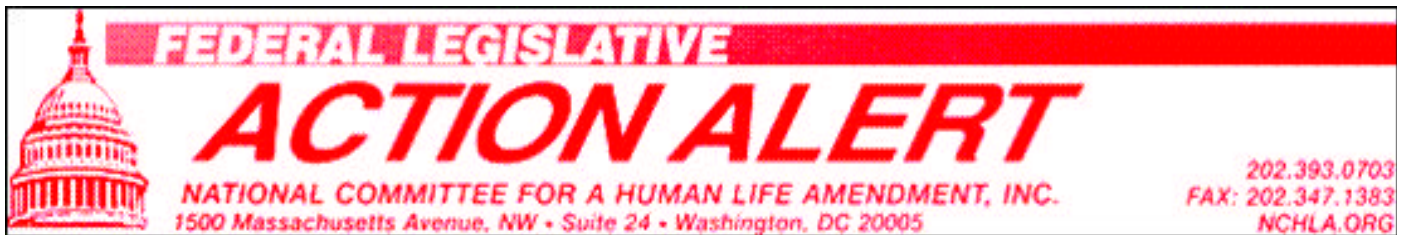
House Office Bldg., where they met with 5 of our 9-member delegation at a reception MC'd by Sharon Rodi, Esq. of the Louisiana Right to Life Federation, and Archbishop Alfred Hughes of New Orleans. In attendance and addressing the group, were Congressmen Rodney Alexander (R-5th), Joseph Cao (R-2nd), Steve Scalise (R-1st), Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R-6th), and John Fleming, M.D. (R-4th). Senator David Vitter was, unfortunately, delayed, but sent his regards and support. As is so often the case, *the March was virtually completely ignored by the media!*



Peaceful and tired, marchers arrive at the Supreme Court steps



Congressmen Cao, Cassidy, Scalise & Fleming awaiting turn to speak



Retain Pro-Life Policies in Appropriations Bill

Last fall, Congress approved only three of the twelve must-pass Fiscal Year 2009 appropriations bills. A Continuing Resolution temporarily extended funding for the nine remaining bills until March 6. By that time Congress must act to extend appropriations for these nine bills to the end of the fiscal year, September 30, 2009.

The appropriations committees are preparing an omnibus appropriations bill to extend this funding (there is no bill number until a measure is reported out of committee). In conjunction with President's Day, Congress will be in recess during the week of February 16. *Some expect bills to reach the House and Senate floors after the recess, perhaps as early as the week of February 23.*

On February 5, Cardinal Justin Rigali, Chairman of the Bishops' Committee for Pro-Life Activities, wrote a letter to all Senators and Representatives, urging them "*not* to use this legislation to weaken or rescind longstanding provisions that protect U.S. taxpayers from being forced to fund and promote the destruction of innocent human life." Cardinal Rigali drew special attention to the need to retain the Hyde amendment and similar laws that "protect taxpayers from being compelled to subsidize and promote abortion," the Dickey/Wicker amendment (no federal funds for research in which human embryos are created, harmed and destroyed), the Hyde/Weldon conscience protection amendment, and the Kemp-Kasten amendment (gives the president authority to stop U.S. funding of organizations that support or help manage programs of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization).

The Cardinal describes these and similar laws as "modest, common-sense policies that are widely supported even among people who disagree on the legal status of abortion." He concludes: "In a society that wants to reduce abortions, it makes no sense for government to force its citizens to fund and promote abortion." For full text of letter, see: www.nchla.org/docdisplay.asp?ID=225.

Action: Please contact your Representative and two Senators by e-mail, phone call, or FAX letter. Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121, or call your Members' local offices. Full contact info can be found on Members' web sites at: www.house.gov and www.senate.gov. To send e-mail messages, please go to www.nchla.org/actiondisplay.asp?ID=269.

Message: "When you take up the Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill, please retain all longstanding provisions that protect taxpayers from having to fund and promote abortion."

When: The Fiscal Year 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill could be brought to the House and Senate floors as early as the week of February 23. The bill must be signed into law by March 6. Please act today! Thanks!

2/9/09

Louisiana Delegation, U.S. Senate and House of Representatives

111th Congress (2008/9) [January 26, 2009]

SENATORS:

Letters:

Senator _____
(Room _____) (Room No., if available)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
Dear Senator _____:

Mary Landrieu (D)
(SH-724)
Tel: (202) 224-5824
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New Orleans Tel: (504) 589-2427
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<http://landrieu.senate.gov/contact/index.cfm>

David Vitter (R)
(SH-516)
Tel: (202) 224-4623
FAX: (202) 228-5061
Metairie Tel: (225) 589-2753
FAX: (504) 589-2607

<http://vitter.senate.gov/?module=webformiqv1>

CONGRESSMEN:

Letters:

Congressman _____
(Room _____) (Room No., if available)
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
Dear Congressman _____:

Steve Scalise (R – 1st)
(1205 LHOB)
Tel: (202) 225-3015
FAX: (202) 226-0386
Metairie Tel: (504) 837-1259
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http://scalise.house.gov/contactform_zipcheck.shtml

Anh Joseph Cao (R – 2nd) [January 20th]
(2113 RHOB)
Tel: (202) 225-6636
FAX: (202) 225-1988
New Orleans Tel: (504) 595-5104
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Charlie Melancon (D – 3rd)
(404 CHOB)
Tel: (202) 225-4031
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www.house.gov/melancon

John Fleming, M.D. (R – 4th) [January 20th]
(1023 LHOB)
Tel: (202) 225-2777
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<http://fleming.house.gov/contact/index.shtml>

Rodney Alexander (R – 5th)
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Monroe Tel: (318) 322-3500
FAX: (318) 322-3577
<http://www.house.gov/alexander/content/webform/zipauth.htm>

Bill Cassidy, M.D. (R – 6th) [January 20th]
(506 CHOB)
Tel: (202) 225-3901
FAX: (202) 225-7313
Baton Rouge Tel: (225) 929-7711
FAX: (225) 929-7688
<http://cassidy.house.gov/contact/index.shtml>

Charles Boustany, Jr., M.D. (R – 7th)
(1117 LHOB)
Tel: (202) 225-2031
FAX: (202) 225-5724
Lafayette Tel: (337) 235-6322
FAX: (337) 235-6072
<http://boustany.house.gov/ContactCharles.asp>

As the Irish political philosopher, Edmund Burke,
said in 1790 (or, at least, as is attributed to him!),
***“All that is necessary for evil to triumph
is for good men to do nothing!”***

Please do not let evil triumph!

The Hippocratic Resource
www.LaDocs4Life.org

LOUISIANA GOVERNOR:

Tel: (225) 342-7015. FAX: (225) 342-7099.
http://www.gov.la.gov/index.cfm?md=form&tmp=email_governor

Other Useful Governmental Contacts (2-13-09)¹

	<u>Office</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>FAX</u>
<u>Other:</u>			
* <u>Senate</u> Majority Leader Harry Reid	D-NV SH 528	(202) 224-3542	(202) 224-7327
Majority Whip Richard Durbin	D-IL SH 309	(202) 224-2152	(202) 228-0400
Minority Leader. Mitch McConnell	R-KY SR 361A	(202) 224-2541	(202) 224-2499
Minority Whip Jon Kyl	R-AZ SH 730	(202) 224-4521	(202) 224-2207
Repub.Conf.Chair Lamar Alexander	R-TN SD 455	(202) 224-4944	(202) 228-3398
* <u>House</u> Speaker Nancy Pelosi	D-CA 235 CHOB	(202) 225-4965	(202) 225-8259
Majority Leader Steny Hoyer	D-MD 1705 LHOB	(202) 225-4131	(202) 225-4300
Majority Whip James Clyburn	D-SC 2135 RHOB	(202) 225-3315	(202) 225-2313
Dem.Cauc.Chair Cong.John Larson	D-CT 1005 LHOB	(202) 225-2265	(202) 225-1031
Minority Leader John Boehner	R-OH 1011 LHOB	(202) 225-6205	(202) 225-0704
Minority Whip Eric Cantor	R-VA 329 CHOB	(202) 225-2815	(202) 225-0011
Repub.Conf.Chair Mike Pence	R-IN 1317 LHOB	(202) 225-3021	(202) 225-3382
*Vice President Joseph Biden	Tel: (202) 456-9000		vice.president@whitehouse.gov
*President Barack Obama	Tel: (202) 456-1414	FAX: (202) 456-2461.	president@whitehouse.gov

* Usually votes pro-*abortion-choice*

¹Compiled by

The Hippocratic Resource, Baton Rouge, LA

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

www.LaDocs4Life.org or www.LaHealthProfs4Life.org

[See summary of U.S. abortion statistics for 2004-2005 at www.LaDocs4Life.org, Abortion statistics]