



new york state  
**RIGHT TO LIFE COMMITTEE, INC.**

COMMITTEE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, MARCH 17, 2022

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Gov. Hochul’s proposed budget contains a poison pill aimed directly at the conscience of millions of New Yorkers.

Part R in the proposed budget requires every medical insurance policy offered in the state to include coverage for elective abortion. This, despite the fact that millions of pro-life New Yorkers believe that abortion is the killing of an innocent unborn child and don’t want their premium dollars to subsidize that killing.

Part R does contain a very narrow exemption for what it calls “religious employers,” but the bill’s definition doesn’t include many religiously affiliated charitable organizations. Nor would it exempt pro-life pregnancy care centers.

The proposed budget does not contain a conscience clause for a person who is pro-life, but who doesn’t work for a church, religious order, or association of churches. Even church employees would receive abortion coverage, since Part R requires insurance companies to pay for abortions for all covered persons at their own expense when the policy-holder works for an exempted organization.

The effect is that the cost of covering abortions will be spread through other policy-holders’ premiums, meaning other New Yorkers will be paying for abortions they might view as a deep violation of human rights.

New York State Right to Life asks that the legislature remove Part R, and if it is not removed, to reject the budget bill as a basic denial of human rights.