Dear Members of Congress,

We are grateful that Republicans continue to stand strong against Democrats' demands for massive spending on a continuing resolution—specifically, funding for Obamacare subsidies that cover abortion plans. Democrats are refusing to fund the government unless Republicans agree to extend Biden's COVID-era expanded subsidies. Any funding for Obamacare, however, whether through cost-sharing reductions or premium tax credits, is forced taxpayer funding of abortion, unless such funds are definitively limited to coverage that excludes elective abortion. Obamacare was written to be self-appropriating from the Treasury rather than appropriated through the Labor, Health and Human Services spending bill, and therefore, Hyde does not apply—and has never applied—to it.

For over 40 years, the Hyde amendment has protected the unborn by stopping taxpayers from being forced to pay for abortion and for health insurance plans that include coverage of abortion. The enactment of Obamacare in 2010 ruptured that longstanding policy by codifying the largest-ever departure from the Hyde amendment and the largest legislative expansion of abortion since *Roe v. Wade*. Among other objectionable provisions, Obamacare authorized massive federal subsidies to assist millions of Americans with purchasing health insurance plans that include abortion. Democrats at the time wrote Obamacare intentionally to avoid the Hyde amendment by bypassing the annual appropriations process to which Hyde applies. Instead of stopping funding for health insurance plans that cover elective abortion in a consistent manner with Hyde, Obamacare expressly permits subsidies for health insurance plans that cover elective abortion. Abortion coverage through these plans is funded using premium tax credits (PTCs) as well as cost-sharing reduction payments (CSRs) that reduce out-of-pocket costs for subsidized enrollees.

Democrats falsely claim that Section 1303¹ applies Hyde to Obamacare. This is not the case. Section 1303 established separate payment and separate accounting requirements to justify taxpayer funding for plans that cover abortion. This "accounting gimmick," colloquially known as the "abortion surcharge," allows health insurance plans on Obamacare exchanges to cover elective abortion and still receive taxpayer funds; so long as they collect the surcharge. If they intended to apply the Hyde amendment they could have used the Hyde amendment. They didn't.

Under section 1303, PTCs and CSRs pay for healthcare plans that cover abortion that are not allowable under Hyde. When the taxpayer funds the plan, they make all coverage available to the enrollee, no accounting gimmick changes that. When taxpayer dollars buy a plan that covers abortion, they are funding the abortion. This means that any extension of Obamacare PTCs or CSRs by Congress must be protected by the true Hyde policy.

As pro-life leaders, we urge you to raise your voice to unequivocally oppose any consideration of extending the COVID-era subsidies without Hyde protections. The pro-life Congress must not be a party to Obama's abortion funding scheme.

¹ Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, § 1303, 124 Stat. 119, 168-171 (2010).

Sincerely,

Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission

American Association of Prolife Everlasting Light Ministries

Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG)
Faith & Freedom Coalition

AAPLOG Action Family Policy Alliance

Advancing American Freedom Family Research Council

AFA Action Florida Faith & Freedom Coalition

Alabama Policy Institute

Georgia Faith & Freedom Coalition

American College of Pediatricians

Georgia Life Alliance

American Principles Project Good Counsel

Americans United for Life Heartlife Foundation

Anglicans For Life
Human Life Alliance

Areté Global Consulting

Iowa Faith & Freedom Coalition

CA Faith & Freedom Coalition

Idaho Family Policy Center

Campaign Life Missouri Indiana Right to Life

Catholic Vote

Jewish Pro-Life Foundation

Center for Christian Virtue

Kansans For Life

Center for Urban Renewal and Education

(CURE) Kentucky Right to Life

Choose Life KY Faith & Freedom Coalition

Choose Life Coalition Liberty Counsel Action

Christian Defense Coalition Life Issues Institute

Cincinnati Right to Life

Life Legal Defense Foundation

Citizens for a Pro-Life Society

LifeNews.com

Cogency Strategic Live Action

Concerned Women for America Legislative

Louisiana Family Forum

Action Committee Maine Right to Life

Eagle Forum March for Life Action

Eagle Forum of Alabama Maryland Family Institute

Ethics and Public Policy Center Maryland Right to Life, Inc.

Midwest March for Life Right to Life of Michigan

Missouri Right to Life Right to Life of Northeast Indiana

Montana Family Foundation Right to Life of Southwest Indiana

Montanans for Life S.M.A.R.T. Women's Healthcare - Science

National Pro-Life Alliance

Matters in Abortion Related Trauma

National Right to Life Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn Initiative

Natrona County Chapter, Wyoming Right to

SC Faith & Freedom Coalition

Life Speakhope.net

NC Faith & Freedom Coalition Stanton Healthcare

NC Values Coalition Students for Life Action

Nebraska Family Alliance Tennessee Faith & Freedom Coalition

Nevada Faith & Freedom Coalition Tennessee Right to Life

New Jersey Right to Life Texas Faith & Freedom Coalition

New Mexico Alliance for Life Texans for Life Committee

New York Families Action Texas Values

NY Faith & Freedom Coalition The Abortion Survivors Network

Ohio Faith & Freedom Coalition The Family Foundation of Kentucky

Oregon Right to Life The FAMiLY Leader

PA Faith & Freedom Coalition The Justice Foundation

Palmetto Family Council Thomas More Society

Pennsylvania Family Institute Tradition, Family, Property, Inc.

Priests for Life Unplanned Good Inc.

Pro-Life Action League Virginia Faith & Freedom Coalition

Pro-Life Action Ministries Wisconsin Faith & Freedom Coalition

Pro-Life Greenville (South Carolina) WV Faith & Freedom Coalition

Pulse Life Advocates Wyoming Family Alliance

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Right to Life of Central California