



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Priests, Pastoral Administrators and Deacons

From: The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano + *Salvatore R. Matano*

Date: May 4, 2021, *Easter Season*

Re: Support for the Hyde Amendment and Participation in Action during the First Week of June 2021

In a communication dated May 3, 2021, His Excellency, Joseph F. Naumann, Chairman of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), asked that all bishops share the following information with you regarding the Hyde Amendment which “has protected Americans from funding abortion for 45 years” and is “credited with saving the lives of over **2.4 million children** to date.” Please share this initiative with your Life Liaisons, parish Respect Life Coordinators and the faithful at large by way of your parish bulletin or parish electronic media.

From the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities:

The Hyde Amendment has protected Americans from funding abortion for 45 years. It’s credited with saving the lives of over **2.4 million children** to date. Now, powerful members of Congress want to take away this law that both Democrats and Republicans have supported for nearly half a century. Without it, *billions* of taxpayer dollars could go to abortion.

That means abortions would be *cheaper, easier, and funded* with our taxpayer dollars.

As Pope Francis has said, “The future of humanity ... is fundamentally in the hands of peoples and in their ability to organize.”

It is **critically important** for Catholics to send a *strong* message before Congress moves forward to impose taxpayer-funded abortion. Because of the *incredibly high stakes* Congress needs to hear from a *massive* number of people.

I invite the people of your parish to join our diocesan response to this nationwide effort by the USCCB, set for the **first week of June**.

The primary goal is for *millions of Catholics to sign the petition* on NoTaxpayerAbortion.com.

The USCCB has created **easy, ready-to-use tools** that can be found at respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion. These include a sample announcement, graphics, flyer, and infographic. More tools continue to be added as they become available, so be sure to check back.

Additionally, the USCCB is hosting a webinar on **Wednesday, May 12 at 2:00 PM (EDT)** that will give more information on the push for tax dollars to pay for abortion and what Catholics can do to stop it. Anyone interested can register at respectlife.org/no-taxpayer-abortion.