



October 2011

Decrease In Nebraska Abortions Tied To Enactment Of LB 1103

Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act:

14 Percent Drop In Abortions In Sarpy County, Site Of Carhart Facility

Abortion statistics compiled by the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services showed an overall drop in the number of abortions from the first six months of 2010 (1,288 abortions) to the first six months of 2011 (1,153 abortions) reflecting a ten percent decrease. Sarpy County showed a 14 percent decrease in the number of abortions from January-June 2010 compared to the same period from January-June 2011. The 14-percent drop took place in the county where LeRoy Carhart is the only abortionist. Those numbers were 2010: 768 abortions to 2011: 662 abortions.

"Legislation does save lives and we feel there is a direct correlation between the enactment of LB 1103 in October 2010 and the drop in abortions in 2011," said Julie Schmit-Albin, Executive Director of Nebraska Right to Life.

LB 1103, the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, was Nebraska Right to Life's priority legislation for 2010.

After its enactment on October 15, 2010, Carhart fled the state with his late term business to Maryland. He admitted in the Omaha World-Herald in the Fall of 2010 that the new law forced his hand because he could no longer abort unborn babies older than 20 weeks gestation in Nebraska. Sadly, he is still committing earlier gestation abortions in Bellevue but LB 1103 has severely cut into the lucrative late term part of his business as he spends a good portion of each month in Maryland.

Nebraska Right to Life's parent organization, National Right to Life, had a new idea of introducing another standard on abortion besides viability; by showing that unborn babies feel pain. The legislation had never been floated anywhere and Nebraska was just the place to do it.

"Thankfully, when we approached Speaker of the Legislature Mike Flood, he grasped the concept of banning

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Coalition Of State Pro-Life/Pro-Family Groups: Nebraskans Against Planned Parenthood Bring STOPP Planned Parenthood Trainers To State

Nebraska Right to Life is but one member of a coalition of state pro-life/pro-family organizations that came together earlier in the summer under the title of Nebraskans Against Planned Parenthood (NAPP).

NAPP has lost no time in meeting and organizing events around the state to train local pro-lifers on how to keep Planned Parenthood of the Heartland (PPH) out of their communities. PPH announced its plans earlier in the year to open new sites in Fremont, Grand Island, Hastings, Kearney, Norfolk and North Platte. Local Right to Life chapters and other activists have met



Rita Diller of STOPP Planned Parenthood, instructs Omaha activists on Oct. 1st after praying at the Planned Parenthood of the Heartland abortion facility near 93rd & Maple earlier in the morning. Photo courtesy of Vital Signs Ministries

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Pro-lifers attend STOPP Planned Parenthood activist training at Doniphan on Sept. 29th with Jim Sedlak.



Attendees at the Sept. 30th general meeting in Fremont hear from STOPP Planned Parenthood's Jim Sedlak on how to keep Planned Parenthood out of their city.

Nebraskans Against Planned Parenthood Bring STOPP Planned Parenthood Trainers To State

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in each of the communities.

In September, Jim Sedlak of STOPP Planned Parenthood, traveled to Norfolk to conduct a training session and general meeting. Jim returned three weeks later with Rita Diller, also of STOPP. They split duties with Jim doing training and general meetings in North Platte, Kearney, Doniphan, Grand Island, Hastings and Fremont. Rita handled Omaha and Lincoln where PPH already has abortion facilities. Some of the leaders from the NAPP groups shuttled Jim and Rita around the state and attended the local meetings. NRL President Sandy Danek spent a lot of quality time with Jim, driving him between Hastings and Fremont. She also attended meetings in those cities along with Kearney, Grand Island, North Platte and Lincoln.



(l to r) South Central NE Right to Life President Connie Consbruck, Nebraska Right to Life President Sandy Danek and STOPP's Jim Sedlak at Sept. 30th meeting in Hastings.



(l to r) Former Nebraska Right to Life President Shirley Lang, Lincoln Right to Life President Matt Tapling and Rita Diller at the Lincoln RTL Celebrate Life Banquet on Sept. 29th.



Attendees at a meeting Sept. 29th in Hastings hear from Jim Sedlak.



Linda Ritter of West Point joined her daughter, Jessica, and grandson, Carter, at the Fremont activist training on Sept. 30th.



Lincoln Right to Life supporters at a Sept. 29th banquet heard keynote speaker Rita Diller talk about closing more than 20 Planned Parenthood clinics in Texas.



A young mother at the Hastings meeting is interviewed by NTV News of Kearney.

Life Chains In More Than 30 Nebraska Cities On Sunday, Oct. 2nd

Right: Lincoln Life Chainers along "O" Street. Below: Blessed Sacrament Church, Lincoln, stand in Life Chain on Oct. 2.



Save The Date

Nebraska Walk for Life
Saturday, January 28, 2012
10 a.m. at the State Capitol in Lincoln

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abortion at 20 weeks of gestation and beyond, based upon the fact that it can be medically documented that babies can feel pain," Schmit-Albin said. "Speaker Flood agreed to work with National Right to Life and us on their draft of this innovative legislation. He sponsored and prioritized LB 1103 and his leadership is the main reason the bill passed."

This year, four other states followed Nebraska's lead and passed the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. They are Alabama, Kansas, Oklahoma and Idaho.

For the past four years, Nebraska Right to Life has looked at the landscape

of life issues in Nebraska and decided to seek the introduction and passage of one key piece of state legislation each year that would have an impact.

"This saw us prioritizing and working specifically for the Human Cloning Ban, LB 606, in 2008; the Ultrasound Bill, LB 675, in 2009; the Pain Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, LB 1103, in 2010; and just this year, in 2011, the Stop Web Cam Abortions Bill, LB 521. Because we decided to focus on one bill a year and push for introduction and passage of each of these bills, the landscape of the sanctity of life in Nebraska has been impacted through these new statutes," Schmit-Albin said.

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Nebraska Right to Life State Fair Booth Takes Honors 37th Year At Fair

Nebraska Right to Life has had a booth at the State Fair for 37 years. The Fair moved from Lincoln to Grand Island two years ago and with the move came the concern that we would have to find a whole new cadre of volunteers to staff the booth for the ten days of the Fair's run.

Enter on-site coordinators Scott and Hannah Moore of Grand Island, who did an excellent job rounding up local volunteers the past two years. Right to Life Chapters from Columbus, David City, Hastings, Fullerton and Lincoln assisted on the weekends.

This year, the NRL booth won a commendation for Outstanding Exhibitor, Indoor Information, complete with fancy ribbon. Our double wide booth with 60-inch big screen TV running continuous, color 4-D ultrasound videos as well as the distribution of 3,000 free baby models was definitely a big hit.



The NRL booth won a commendation for Outstanding Exhibitor.



Sharon Conrad of Hastings helps set up the booth.



This young mom stopped by to say thanks to NRL for being at the Fair. We hear this a lot throughout the course of the Fair and are always gratified by the support of Nebraskans.

