

May 2015

Nebraska Right to Life

State Affiliate to the National Right to Life Committee

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LEGISLATURE SHELVES PRO-LIFE BILLS FOR FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW

The Nebraska Legislature's Judiciary Committee heard three pro-life bills on March 18th that are still being held in Committee. Because none of the bills were selected as a "Priority Bill" by any Senator, there was little chance of making the case to the Committee for them to move to the floor this year. The Unicameral's system in recent years dictates that controversial legislation (that which has opposition and/or amendments) must have a "priority" designation either by a Senator, Committee or the Speaker, to come forward for floor debate in that Session. Because we are in the first year of a two-year cycle, the pro-life bills will carry over to the 2016 Session, unless the Judiciary Committee kills them.

Two of the bills are perceived to be a priority by Nebraska Right to Life. They are LB 187, which we worked with Sen. Bill Kintner, LD 2, to bring to fruition; and LB 114, introduced by Sen. Beau McCoy, LD 39. The third bill, LB 358 by Sen. Tommy Garrett, LD 3, is supported by NRL as it deals with rapists not being allowed to seek custody of the baby born as a result of the rape without the permission of the birth mother and court adjudication.

LB 187 would direct the Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) to create a web page within its website that contains all of the statutorily-mandated information for Informed Consent on Abortion, in one spot. This includes the methods and complications of abortion, medically accurate fetal development information at two-week gestational increments from fertilization through birth, where in the State ultrasounds can be obtained and a list of Pregnancy Help Centers, among other things. The DHHS web page would



Pro-lifers from LD 33 visit with Judiciary Committee Chairman Les Seiler on March 18th during Pro-Life Legislative Day at the Capitol, an annual event sponsored by Nebraska Right to Life.

have to link to a 4-D ultrasound site that shows videos and photos of babies developing in the womb. The DHHS site would have to be provided as a link on the websites of abortion facilities. In addition, uniform signage would be placed in all abortion facility waiting areas and counseling rooms that states it is against the law for anyone to coerce someone into having an abortion and that the abortion facility cannot legally perform an abortion on someone who is being coerced against their will.

LB 114 would change the current DHHS designation of

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GIVE ONLINE DURING GIVE TO LINCOLN DAY, MAY 28

Nebraska Right to Life Educational Trust fund is taking part in the annual Give To Lincoln Day for online fundraising for nonprofits. Go to our Razoo link online at our website, www.nebraskarighttolife.org, to find the link to give. Your donation to NRL Ed Trust Fund is tax exempt. Of course you can give anytime of the year at this link, but during May your donations will go toward our total for GTLD. Thank you!

TESTIMONY FROM PRO-LIFERS AT THE MARCH 18 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE HEARING

Regarding the constitutionality of LB 187, **NRL Executive Director Julie Schmit-Albin** said, “As for any concern about the State infringing on free speech, the Kansas DHHS website (on Informed Consent for Abortion) link was initially challenged by Planned Parenthood of Kansas/Mid-Missouri, but they dropped it after the State of Kansas cited case law upholding the right of government to regulate commerce.”

According to the **Kansans for Life** blog report, “The fact is that case law upholds the right of government to regulate commerce. In the interest of consumer protection, the government already mandates warnings on toys, cigarette packs and take-off instructions for airline passengers. The required abortion clinic link at issue is commercial regulation, not interference with free speech. Planned Parenthood is a business ... The State of Kansas’ legal brief argued that the required link was ‘sensible commercial disclosure requirements aimed at ensuring a decision is mature and informed.’”

From **Sue Thayer, former director of Planned Parenthood of Storm Lake, IA, and now founder of Cornerstone for Life Pregnancy Resource Center in Storm Lake**: “During my years there (PP), I was taught many tricks to steer a woman toward abortion. We would say things like, ‘If you can’t even afford to pay \$10 for your pregnancy test, how will you buy diapers?’ Things like fetal development and risks of abortion were rarely, if ever, brought up, partly because of the discomfort it caused the staff but also because

of the pressure to meet goals. Planned Parenthood may call themselves nonprofit, but I can assure you, their business model is based on making money. They are more about their bottom line than making sure women have accurate and complete information.”

From **NRL President Sandy Danek** testifying for LB 114: “One must also consider that abortion facilities are the only ‘medical facility’ with the primary goal of its surgical unit established to take a human life in exchange for a fee.

Whenever a human life is destroyed, there is a tremendous risk involved. We can cite a number of botched abortions, including in some of the clinics right here in our own State. One only has to look at a photo of LeRoy Carhart’s abortion facility on Mission Avenue in Bellevue and wonder what health and safety standards might be at issue or even ignored.”



Sue Thayer (l), former abortion facility manager for Planned Parenthood of the Heartland in Storm Lake, IA, came to testify for LB 187 at the Legislature’s Judiciary Committee on March 18th.

LEGISLATURE SHELVES PRO-LIFE BILLS

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abortion facilities from “health clinics” to “ambulatory surgical centers,” requiring them to meet higher standards of training in medical and emergency care.

As predicted, the only main opposition to both bills came from Planned

Parenthood of the Heartland, which sent two testifiers from its Des Moines, IA, regional office, and the American Civil Liberties Union of Nebraska.

Please note the list of Judiciary Committee members to the left. We ask that you contact these members this summer with support for LB 187 and LB 114.

Please note that Judiciary Chairman Les Seiler, LD 33, is an attorney in Hastings. He has told his constituents who have come to Pro-Life Legislative Day for two years in a row that he is not supportive of the LB 187 concept, most especially the signage aspect. He cites a 4th U.S. Judicial Circuit Court ruling that says the State dictating signage to a private business is unconstitutional. Sen. Seiler has our refutation to that, handed out at the Committee hearing regarding other Court adjudication

that allows signage. In fact, the 2014 Legislature voted to pass a bill that mandated uniform signage at tanning salons detailing the dangers of tanning.

Note here two photos of State and Federal mandated signage at a Lincoln Target store, directed at the purchase of alcohol. Senator Seiler knows that this is common and needs to be called on his contention that LB 187 is unconstitutional.

- Judiciary Committee members**
- Sen. Les Seiler, Chairperson**
402-471-2712, lseiler@leg.ne.gov
 - Sen. Ernie Chambers**
402-471-2612
 - Sen. Colby Coash**
402-471-2632, ccoash@leg.ne.gov
 - Sen. Laura Ebke**
402-471-2711, lebke@leg.ne.gov
 - Sen. Bob Krist**
402-471-2718, bkrist@leg.ne.gov
 - Sen. Adam Morfeld**
402-471-2720, amorfeld@leg.ne.gov
 - Sen. Patty Pansing Brooks**
402-471-2633,
ppansingbrooks@leg.ne.gov
 - Sen. Matt Williams**
402-471-2642, mwilliams@leg.ne.gov



State and Federal mandated signage at a Lincoln Target



STATE CAPITOL

Various legislative districts were represented at Pro-Life Legislative Day on March 18th at the State Capitol. Our thanks to Gov. Pete Ricketts and Sen. Bill Kintner for procuring our historic meeting room.



STATE CAPITOL

Gov. Pete Ricketts addresses Pro-Life Legislative Day participants.



STATE CAPITOL

Sen. Bill Kintner , LD 2, addresses Pro-Life Legislative Day attendees.



STATE CAPITOL

Sen. Tommy Garrett, LD 3, talks to Pro-Life Legislative Day attendees.



LINCOLN

24,000 Nebraska Right to Life PAC Voter Guides Were Lit-Dropped in the Lincoln City Primary & General Elections in April and May.



LINCOLN

PAC Lit Drop pieces for the Lincoln City General Election on May 5th.



Planned Parenthood Voters of Nebraska Facebook page notes our PAC piece.

www.nebraskarighttolife.org

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Mail can only be received at our P.O. Box.



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Facebook: Search Facebook using Nebraska Right to Life: State Affiliate to National Right to Life



Twitter: Search Twitter using NERightToLife.

Both sites are updated daily with video/links/posts from national and State sources. Tell your friends and family on these sites to join the NRL pages.



KEARNEY STUDENTS HOST PRO-LIFE MOVIE SHOWING

University of Nebraska-Kearney Students for Life held a free showing of "Bella" for the public at a local theatre. A free-will donation was taken and the group was able to pay for the theatre costs AND net \$500 with their pro-life event!

WILLIAMS RETIRES AS NATIONAL RIGHT TO LIFE CHAIR

National Right to Life Chairwoman of the Board of Directors Geline Williams retired from her post at the Spring NRLC Meeting. Here she is pictured (l) with fellow Virginia Society for Human Life member Secretary Maggie Disney. Nebraska Right to Life thanks Geline for her many years of dedicated service on behalf of those most vulnerable and innocent, from fertilization through natural death.

