

Nebraska Right to Life

State Affiliate to the National Right to Life Committee

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LEGISLATURE FAILS TO DEAL WITH PRO-LIFE LEGISLATION FOR THIRD YEAR IN A ROW

The Nebraska Legislature failed for the third year in a row to pass any pro-life bills out of committee and to the floor for full debate. Among those languishing in the Judiciary Committee are LB 1032 (detailed below), LB 300, DHHS web page for Informed Consent, and LB 564, Freedom of Conscience for Medical Workers.

Senator Bill Kintner, LD 2, introduced and prioritized LB 1032, the Anti-Coercion Act, in this session of the Nebraska Legislature. The bill was heard in the Judiciary Committee on February 27th. LB 1032 directs uniform signage that must be placed in abortion facility waiting areas and consultation rooms which states the following:

Notice: It is against the law for anyone, regardless of his or her relationship to you, to force you to have an abortion. By law, we cannot perform an abortion on you unless we have your freely given and voluntary consent. It is against the law to perform an abortion on you against your will. You have the right to contact any local or state law enforcement agency to receive protection from any actual or threatened physical abuse or violence.

The purpose of LB 1032 is to provide women with the knowledge that it is against the law for them to be coerced or forced into having an abortion. Sometimes a woman or young girl's coercer is sitting with her in the abortion facility ensuring she goes through with the abortion. The posters required by law are of large enough font and to be placed prominently enough that they will be easily seen in every waiting area and consultation room. This will hopefully give women and young girls the help they need to stand up to those who might be forcing them into abortion.

LB 1032 was based on language from National Right to Life which is in statute in Kansas, Louisiana, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Tennessee and has not been legally challenged.

Nebraska Right to Life brought Olivia Gans Turner of American Victims of Abortion to testify for LB 1032. Olivia talked about her own abortion and how she went to four abortion facilities telling them that her boyfriend was the one who wanted the abortion, not her. She also spoke of the hundreds of post-abortive women she has met through the years and



Senator Bill Kintner, sponsor and prioritizer of LB 1032, with Olivia Gans Turner of American Victims of Abortion

that women and young girls often are coerced into abortion by their boyfriends, parents, friends or other family members.

Also speaking for LB 1032 were Jeannie Pittam, a post abortive counselor with the Lincoln Crisis Pregnancy Center, and Geoff Friesen, a UN-L professor whose unborn child was aborted. Nebraska Right to Life testified in support and letters of support were submitted to the Committee by other groups and individuals.

The only opposition at the hearing came from Planned Parenthood of the Heartland and the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, whose spokesperson, Alan Peterson, simply suggested the bill was unconstitutional with no backup documentation. Nebraska Right to Life subsequently sent to all Committee members court cases from Texas and Kansas upholding

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COMMITTEE FAILS TO MOVE LB 1032

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directing commercial speech in the context of abortion law, most notably that allowed in the U.S. Supreme Court decision *Planned Parenthood vs. Casey*, 1992.

Despite the heartfelt commentary of the three main proponents, Senator Ernie Chambers, LD 11, commenced on a tirade against LB 1032, allowed by Judiciary Committee Chairman Brad Ashford, LD 20, who did nothing to rein in Senator Chambers' extraneous "questioning" of witnesses and Senator Kintner. Senator Ashford also rejected overtures from Nebraska Right to Life to discuss the bill.

Nebraska Right to Life spent the next two weeks following the hearing lobbying Committee members and others to get the bill out of Committee but was only able to obtain assurances from Senator Colby Coash, LD 27, Senator Mark

Christensen, LD 44, and Senator Al Davis, LD 43, that they would vote the bill out of Committee.

Senator Les Seiler, LD 33, and Senator Steve Lathrop, LD 12, were two key votes needed to get to the five-vote majority to send the bill out of Committee. Senator Lathrop and Senator Seiler are attorneys and were given the court cases re: constitutionality issues. Senator Seiler outwardly opposed the bill, stating it was "unnecessary" and "not needed." The remaining Committee member is Senator Amanda McGill, LD 26, who said she would look at the constitutional information provided.

Thanks to Senator Kintner for not only introducing a new pro-life bill this session, but for being willing to expend his only priority on it. Each Senator gets to name one priority bill per session.

PRO-LIFE LEGISLATIVE DAY

On February 27th, in conjunction with the hearing on LB 1032, Nebraska Right to Life hosted the annual Pro-Life Legislative Day. Attendees were briefed in the morning on pro-life bills before the Judiciary Committee, in particular LB 1032, the Anti-Coercion Act.

Olivia Gans Turner of American Victims of Abortion (National Right to Life) gave her background on stories of coercion and forced abortion that she has heard in 50 States and 17 Countries where she has worked with post-abortive individuals. Packets of information were handed out and attendees were taken up to the Rotunda to pull their Senators off the legislative floor and talk to them about the bill. Those who could remained for the afternoon hearing in the Judiciary Committee.



Olivia Gans Turner of American Victims of Abortion, a division of National Right to Life, instructs Pro-Life Legislative Day attendees on February 27th.



FLOWERS DELIVERED TO STATE SENATORS

NRL delivered pink and blue carnations with a card to State Senators and Constitutional Officers on January 22nd in memory of the more than 55 million and more than 180,000 unborn babies who have been aborted nationwide and in Nebraska since 1973.





THOUSANDS AT NEBRASKA WALK FOR LIFE

The 40th annual Nebraska Walk for Life, sponsored by Nebraska Right to Life, was held Saturday, January 25th beginning at the State Capitol at 10 a.m. and concluding at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Student Union at 1 p.m. More than 4,000 pro-life Nebraskans were in attendance outside the Capitol, where elected officials spoke and pink and blue memorial balloons were sent off to commemorate the more than 56 million unborn children who have been aborted since 1973. In Nebraska, that number is more than 187,000 unborn babies.

Keynote speaker Emily Horne, Texas Right to Life Legislative Associate, gave a great presentation at the Union about how Texas has de-funded the abortion industry, closed abortion facilities and fought off the pro-abortion lobby at the Texas State Capitol last summer.

Our thanks to all volunteers who assist with the Walk every year and for those who donate in the buckets that go toward the \$6,000 in Walk expenses.



Participants gather at the Capitol for the 40th annual Nebraska Walk for Life.



Balloon handlers include the Nelson, Ridder and Dreifurst families.



Crowd in one room of Union



Keynote speaker Emily Horne discusses Texas Right to Life's success against the abortion industry.



A young Walk attendee



Overflow crowd at Union

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO MAKE THE WALK A SUCCESS!

Nebraska Right to Life acknowledges those who work every year to ensure that the Walk is a success. Walk costs are now exceeding \$6,000 per year, with costs from the City rising for hiring extra officers and signage. We know that we have somewhat outgrown the Student Union as an indoor venue and appreciate your

Sanctified Sound & Light: Mike & Sam Crane set up and run equipment at the Capitol in adverse weather conditions

Marvin Ward & Lincoln Knights of Columbus Council members who pass the buckets among the crowd to gather funds to help defray our costs of the Walk

Nelson, Ridder & Dreifurst families do a masterful job at balloon handling

Hy-Vee Williamsburg Floral Department, including Pam, who makes two trips with balloons to the Capitol

Bob Ruyle, who performs audio-visual at the Union to ensure all can see the Speaker's A/V in both rooms

Ladies from several Churches who work the Bake Sale at the Union

Publicity from Christian/Catholic media

adjusting to the situation as we have expanded seating into the Ballroom from the Centennial Room. Every year we try to look at the event and see what we can do to improve it for those who attend. Please let us know of your recommendations or concerns so we can continue to have a great January event for all pro-lifers.

UN-L City Union, Carrie Jackson

City Traffic Department, Greg Topil

Capitol Facility Use Permit, Roxanne Smith

City Clerk's Office, Parade Permit

Lincoln Police Department, UN-L Campus Police & Capitol Security who keep us safe at both venues

All Roads Barricades

Larry Hall, Alliance Insurance Group

Chez Hay Catering, beverages

High school & college student volunteers at both venues

Pro-life organizations who host info tables at Union

Thousands of pro-life Nebraskans who attend!

NEBRASKA RIGHT TO LIFE PAC INTERVIEWS CANDIDATES FOR U.S. SENATE & GOVERNOR, FURTHER ENDORSEMENTS COMING

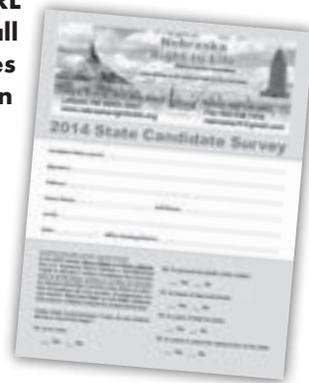
NRL PAC Board members interviewed all Republican candidates for U.S. Senate and Governor on March 15th in Omaha. Each candidate presented their completed NRL PAC survey and spent 20 to 25 minutes discussing their commitment to moving the pro-life cause ahead if elected. NRL PAC voted at the end of the meeting to endorse all of the GOP candidates for Senate and Governor.

NRL PAC surveys were sent to all Federal and State candidates after the March 3rd filing deadline with a March 17th return deadline. Upon compiling the surveys, NRL PAC Board members will meet again to vote on endorsements for all other Federal and State offices.

The NRL PAC Voter Guide containing candidates' answers to the survey and recommendations will be printed and distributed by mid-April. 65,000 Voter Guides are typically distributed in the Primary Election and a new printing of 65,000 is done for the General Election. Voter Guides are distributed in this manner: through lit-dropping on cars in church parking lots by volunteers, through targeted mailings into some legislative districts, via NRL's email alert list and through social media such as NRL Facebook and Twitter.



NRL Board Members discuss U.S. Senate and Governor candidate surveys and interviews on March 15th in Omaha. Right: NRL PAC surveys were sent to all State and Federal candidates after the filing deadline on March 3rd.



Nebraska Right to Life PAC Board interviewing a candidate



WATCH FOR YOUR NRL PAC VOTER GUIDE

Coming Mid-April via mail, literature drop, e-mail and social media. Call us if you don't receive one! These Voter Guides can be taken with you into the voting booth.

www.nebraskarighttolife.org

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Nebraska Right to Life

State Affiliate to the National Right to Life Committee

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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.



STAND FOR LIFE

National Right to Life Convention 2014

Louisville, KY June 26-28

nrlconvention.com



National Right to Life Academy 2014



Now Accepting Applications!
www.nrlc.org/academy

