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# LifeLine

Fall 2007



Newsletter of the National Pro-Life Alliance

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## NPLA Members Lead Charge to End *Roe v. Wade*

*As NPLA Ratchets Up Pressure in Congress, Momentum Builds in House*

With this issue of *LifeLine*, National Pro-Life Alliance staff and members are escalating their offensive to recruit cosponsors and demand action on a Life at Conception Act in the United States House of Representatives.

When passed, a Life at Conception Act like H.R. 618 would end abortion-on-demand by legally defining that human life begins at the moment of conception.

At the heart of a Life at Conception Act – and the entire abortion debate – is the fact that science has long held that life begins at the moment of conception.

In the last session of Congress, Pro-Life Alliance members recruited an all-time record number of cosponsors for a Life at Conception Act, which would legislatively overturn *Roe v. Wade* and end abortion-on-demand.

Many feared the new 110th Congress would be hostile to any pro-life initiative.

But the National Pro-Life Alliance mounted an aggressive campaign for H.R. 618. Members flooded the new House of Representatives with nearly 700,000 citizen petitions and Alliance staff worked the offices of the Congressmen who had pledged to support a Life at Conception Act in last year's election.

### Member Pressure for Life at Conception Act Produces Record Results

As a result, NPLA members are already ahead of last year's pace to win a new record level of support in the House of Representatives.

The National Pro-Life Alliance's President, Martin Fox, believes this momentum in the House will carry over to the United States Senate, where thus far in this session

no champion has emerged to step up to the plate and introduce a companion Senate bill.

Fox met recently with Sen. Mel Martinez (R-FL) to ask the Senator to introduce a Senate version of the Life at Conception Act.

As a result, the Senator's staff is currently drafting and framing legislation.

### Republican Party Platform Calls for a Life at Conception Act

Senator Martinez, who also serves as Republican National Committee Chairman, has a golden opportunity to prove to pro-lifers that his party is committed to defend-

ing the unborn.

"The Republican Party's standing national platform calls for the constitutional protection of the unborn under the 14th Amendment," explained Fox.

"As Republican National Committee Chairman, we're hopeful that Senator Martinez will see this as an opportunity to put those words into action in the Senate."

NPLA members have long led in the fight to legislatively overturn *Roe v. Wade* and end abortion-on-demand by passing a Life at Conception Act. Support for the legislation has steadily grown in each of the last four Congresses.

"By continuing to build on the momen-

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**Congressman Steve King (R-IA) has helped the National Pro-Life Alliance mobilize hundreds of thousands of pro-lifers nationwide behind the effort to end abortion-on-demand by passage of a Life at Conception Act.**

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# Constitution, Court Precedent Confirm Congress' Authority to End Roe

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tum for a Life at Conception Act in the House, pro-lifers will give the Senate no choice but to act," urged Fox.

By passing a Life at Conception Act and simply declaring that human life begins at conception, Congress would be exercising the authority specifically granted to it by the 14th Amendment, which states quite clearly:

"Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article."

So even by the *Roe* Court's own admission -- by passing a Life at Conception Act, Congress can exercise its constitutional authority to enforce the 14th Amendment right to life and completely nullify the *Roe v. Wade* decision legalizing abortion.

The Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade* attempted to avoid the central issue of the abortion debate without ever addressing the personhood of the unborn by arguing:

"We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. . . the judiciary at this point in the development of man's knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer."

Thus the Supreme Court left a door open for Congress to answer the question of when protected life begins.

## Life at Conception Act Would End Abortion-on-Demand

Of course, pro-abortion forces still hang on to a Supreme Court majority even if the new Chief Justice John Roberts and the new Associate Justice Samuel Alito should have the opportunity to consider overturning on *Roe* -- and an amendment to the Constitution is nearly impossible to pass.

Because a Life at Conception Act enforces the existing 14th Amendment right to life rather than adding a new amendment to the Constitution, it would only require a simple majority vote in both houses.

And of course the abortion lobby is well aware that their court-invented "right" could be overturned by legislative action.

The radical, pro-abortion National Organization for Women (NOW) recently warned its members that if the establishment of the personhood of the unborn were

achieved through the passage of legislation, it would bring about the end of legal abortion in America.

The pro-abortion lobby group warned:

"Indeed, declaring fetuses to be equally protected 'persons' (a legal term of art) under the law continues to be a holy mission for anti-abortion activists in the House.

"So why is establishing 'fetal personhood' important to our opponents? Take a look at this language from *Roe v. Wade*: 'If this suggestion of personhood is established, the appellant's [Roe's] case, of course, collapses, for the fetus' right to life is guaranteed by the [Fourteenth] Amendment.'"

## Radical Pro-Abortion Initiative Would Repeal All Pro-Life Gains

In light of the inroads made in advancing a Life at Conception Act, pro-abortion radicals in Congress are seeking to stave off pro-life momentum by advancing legislation that can best be described as the polar opposite of a Life at Conception Act.

Not content with the court-invented "right" to abortion foisted on the nation by the Supreme Court in *Roe v. Wade*, abortion proponents are now seeking to codify taxpayer-funded abortion -- for any reason and throughout all nine months of pregnancy -- through federal legislation.

The so-called "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) would not only deny the unborn the Fourteenth Amendment right to life asserted by a Life at Conception Act, it would reverse even the small gains that pro-lifers have made over the past three decades.

For example, it would repeal both state and federal partial-birth abortion bans, parental involvement requirements and laws that prohibit the public funding of abortion.

FOCA would apply to all current and future local, state, and federal laws. It would enshrine abortion-on-demand into law.

FOCA has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) and currently has 97 cosponsors on

the House side.

FOCA's Senate sponsor is Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-CA). Boxer is the largest recipient of campaign money from the abortion lobby, receiving more than even Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY), the second largest recipient.

Boxer has received over \$800,000 from the pro-abortion Emily's List alone.

The so-called "Freedom of Choice Act" is supported by three current presidential candidates: Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and Dennis Kucinich. It is also supported by two past candidates for national office: John Kerry, and Joe Lieberman. Their support for this radical legislation proves just how out-of-touch these politicians are with most Americans.

While such extreme legislation pleases the radical abortion lobby which wields huge power within the Democrat Party, it doesn't sit well with the vast majority of the population.

Parental notification legislation and a ban on late-term abortions have overwhelming public support. Were it not for the courts, broad abortion restrictions would likely be in place already.

## National Pro-Life Alliance Vows Increased Heat to Overturn Roe

"As Pro-Life Alliance staff and members step up pressure in Congress to build additional support for H.R. 618 and for a Senate version of the Life at Conception Act, it's important that the politicians continue to hear from their constituents," said Fox.

"That's why I hope members will continue to insist that their elected representatives act on legislation to eliminate -- not just regulate in limited circumstances -- abortion-on-demand."

And Fox vowed that "the National Pro-Life Alliance's absolute top priority will be to fight on every front, legislative and judicial, to see to it that this tragic Supreme Court decision ends up on the trash heap of this country's history."



# NPLA Members Fight Against Federally-Funded Abortion

## But More Tax Money Remains Top Goal of Planned Parenthood

Just months after NPLA members launched a nationwide drive against taxpayer-funded abortion, Planned Parenthood's flagship legislation -- the so-called "Prevention First Act" -- remains stalled in committee as this issue of *LifeLine* goes to press.

So now the abortion lobby is scrambling for other ways to squeeze more taxpayer dollars for their bloody agenda.

In a recent email to supporters, Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards reviewed her top goals for the legislative session.

Not surprisingly, three of her four top priorities relate to increased government funding for Planned Parenthood.

The organization, which already receives \$305 million per year in taxpayer funding, is demanding still more money from the public trough through both so-called "family planning" programs and through direct taxpayer funding of abortion through Medicaid.

Since Medicaid entitlements require states to pay for all abortions of Medicaid recipients, such a proposal would give Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers a blank check.

At the same time, Planned Parenthood has proposed mandating that private insurance policyholders fund the killing of unborn children with deadly abortive drugs.

And doctors who refuse to prescribe these abortive drugs would likewise be penalized.

### Planned Parenthood Seeks to De-Fund Any Version of Sex Ed But Its Own

Also listed as a top priority is the defunding of "abstinence-only" programs. Not coincidentally, Planned Parenthood offers none.

This lays the groundwork for more money to Planned Parenthood's favored school curriculum, encouraging youth to "take charge of their sexuality." Of course, their curriculum includes a heavy emphasis on abortion.

And Planned Parenthood's indoctrination begins at a very early age.

Planned Parenthood has played an



**Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, receives more than \$300 MILLION in taxpayer funding each year. Now, through its pro-abortion allies in Congress, Planned Parenthood is seeking even more taxpayer funding.**

active role in the circulation of a so-called "children's book" for sex education entitled, *"It's Perfectly Normal."*

Written for ages 10 and up and widely distributed throughout public libraries and schools, the book goes into graphic descriptions of virtually every act of sexual intimacy. Carefully detailed cartoons illustrate the text, which in any other context would be called pornographic.

Abortion is highly praised as much safer than childbirth. And the many physical and emotional dangers of abortion are either ridiculed or ignored entirely.

Two other books in the series target children as young as four years old.

### NPLA Members Agree – No More Money!

In the Spring 2007 edition of *LifeLine*, NPLA Legislative Director Mike Muench sounded the alarm about the so-called "Prevention First Act (S. 21/HR 819)," a bill to fulfill Planned Parenthood's dreams at taxpayers' expense.

Muench is lobbying Congress against the tax giveaway to Planned Parenthood and urging all National Pro-Life Alliance members to take immediate action to stop Planned Parenthood's attempt to fund its deadly work with tax dollars.

"These measures call for more than a billion tax dollars to fund Planned Parenthood's deadly agenda," explained Muench.

"It's not as if they're hurting for

money," continued Muench. "According to a recent report, Planned Parenthood pocketed a \$55.8 million profit last year and has received in all more than \$3.6 billion in taxpayer dollars."

Planned Parenthood's President, Cecile Richards, has ready access to government largess. Richards is the former Deputy Chief of Staff to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA).

### Pro-Lifers Mobilize to Defeat Federal Abortion Funding

In a move applauded by Muench, Congressman Mike Pence (R-IN) recently introduced important pro-life legislation in the form of an amendment to the Labor, Health, and Human Services Appropriations Bill.

The amendment was specifically aimed at cutting all funding for Planned Parenthood from Title X tax dollars.

The amendment was narrowly defeated 189-231. The Labor, Health, and Human Services Appropriations Bill now heads to the Senate.

NPLA Legislative Director Michael Muench and other staff are currently lobbying Senate offices, warning them that stopping the flow of money to abortionists is a top priority issue for Pro-Life Alliance members. "Any Senate vote to continue any tax funding for Planned Parenthood -- even if the money is not used directly for abortions -- will be considered as a vote for tax funding of abortion."



# NPLA Members, Staff Step Up Pressure for Abortion Veto

## *NPLA Bill Would Give Parents in All States the Right to Stop Teen Abortions*

Recent news headlines from Kansas have underscored the need for a tough federal law granting parents the right to be notified of and – most importantly – to actually stop abortions from being performed on their minor daughters.

In former Kansas Attorney General Phil Kline's investigation of apparently illegal late-term abortions performed by abortionist George Tiller, it was discovered that in 2003 alone 78 abortions were performed by Tiller on girls under the age of 15.

Kansas' age of consent is 16, meaning that each and every one of these girls was most likely a victim of statutory rape.

Yet in all 78 cases, Tiller ignored the law requiring healthcare workers to report suspected cases of rape to authorities.

### **Abortionists Currently Free to Prey on Vulnerable Teenagers**

Sadly, abortionists like Tiller – a major campaign donor to the newly elected Attorney General – are able to take advantage of

local webs of contacts and loopholes in state laws to avoid any accountability for providing risky late-term abortions to young, pregnant girls.

With abortionists such as Tiller wantonly killing the unborn babies of teenage girls, National Pro-Life Alliance members are ratcheting up efforts to enact federal legislation to require that parents be notified of – and given the right to stop – teen abortions.

### **Recent NPLA Member Lobbying Secures Additional Support for H.R. 1295**

Following the opening salvo of lobbying by NPLA members and staff on Capitol Hill, an additional seven House members have signed on as cosponsors in support of the NPLA-Drafted Parental Notification and Intervention Act (H.R. 1295) -- a bill that would give parents veto power over teen abortions.

Pro-Life Alliance staff is now gearing

up for a new round of grass-roots pressure for the measure that, when enacted, promises to save tens of thousands of unborn babies each year.

National Pro-Life Alliance members are looking to take advantage of the huge, national popularity of parental involvement laws to close the loopholes present in state teen abortion laws and grant parental veto power over abortions to parents in all fifty states.

### **Despite State Laws, Sexual Predators Easily Hide Crimes**

With many state legislatures passing bills giving parents the right to be notified of and intervene before their daughter's abortion, abortionists have increasingly resorted to loopholes in state laws.

By transporting minors to states without protections or shopping for judges who automatically grant judicial bypass, abortionists have again and again been able to skirt state parental involvement laws protecting minors.

In response to this ongoing problem, the National Pro-Life Alliance has drafted – and Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave (R-CO) has introduced – the Parental Notification and Intervention Act of 2007.

H.R. 1295 would give either parent the right to be notified of and stop an abortion from being performed on their minor daughter.

The Parental Notification and Intervention Act highlights a growing double standard in our culture and our laws.

### **Parental Involvement Currently Denied in Life or Death Decision**

Parents must give permission for their underage daughter to get her ears pierced at the mall. The same is true if a teenage girl is to be given an aspirin by a school nurse.



**The National Pro-Life Alliance is fighting to pass a Parental Notification and Intervention Act to give parents in all fifty states the right to stop an abortion from being performed on their minor daughter.**

See **NPLA Members Mobilize to Protect Unborn...** page 5

# NPLA Members Mobilize to Protect Unborn in All Fifty States

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No teenager under the age of seventeen can legally see an “R” rated movie in theaters without a parent or guardian present.

Furthermore, no doctor is permitted to perform any other surgery or medical procedure on a minor without first obtaining a parent’s approval so long as the minor’s life is not in immediate danger.

The government rightly recognizes the importance of parental involvement in their teenage child’s life in all of these instances.

However, under current court decisions, abortionists operate with impunity and are free to kill the baby growing inside a teenage girl’s womb without the girl’s parents even knowing about it.

National Pro-Life Alliance members have been in the forefront of the battle to end this appalling license given exclusively to the abortion industry and restore the elemental authority necessary in order to parent.

Three-quarters of the popularly-elected state legislatures have passed laws attempting to protect parental involvement, although many have been overturned by activist pro-abortion judges.

Others are routinely ignored by judges who rubber-stamp judicial “bypass” requests from virtually any teenage girl who appears before them and requests an exception.

According to National Pro-Life Alliance Executive Director Mary King, “the federal Parental Notification and Intervention Act is the logical solution to this national outrage.”

## Members Fight to Close “Judicial Bypass” Exploited by Pro-Abortion Judges

Unfortunately, without a federal law in place, even in states with parental notification, parents are frequently left completely in the dark because a child abuser will evade the law by simply taking the young girl to another state without such a law and obtain an abortion there.

JoAnne Bennett of Pennsylvania found this out the hard way when she learned that her fiancé had been molesting her thirteen-year-old daughter.

He impregnated the girl twice but had

hidden his crime by driving the girl from Pennsylvania (a state that requires parental notification) to Maryland (a state that does not) and was able to have both babies aborted.

The National Pro-Life Alliance is fighting to close such loopholes that allow parental involvement laws to be trampled by pro-abortion judges.

In order to avoid problems experienced under many state laws, the Parental Notification and Intervention Act provides a well-defined standard to be met before any judge may grant an exemption to any of the bill’s requirements.

A judge would be permitted to allow an abortion without notifying the parents only if he or she receives “clear and convincing evidence” of danger of physical abuse from a minor’s parents if they are notified.

## NPLA’s Parental Intervention Bill Exposes Radical Pro-Abortion Politicians

“This bill’s huge popularity not only gives it an excellent chance of passage, but will play an important role in building support for our ultimate goal – a Life at Conception Act ending abortion-on-demand,” points out King.

As was the case with the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban, the American public has consistently displayed strong support for laws protecting parental intervention.

A 1996 Gallup survey demonstrated that 74% of Americans supported requiring that parents be given the right to intervene before an abortion is performed on a minor.

Two years later a CBS/New York Times poll had the figure up to 78%.

More recently, a Los Angeles Times survey showed that the level of support for such legislation had risen to an overwhelming 82%.

This massive national support has built legislative majorities for parental involvement in 44 states.

## By Empowering Parents, NPLA Bill Would Drastically Reduce Abortion Rate

Encouragingly, after enacting even less sweeping state parental notification legislation, states have seen significant declines in their teen abortion rates.

Virginia’s overall abortion rate dropped 20% in the first five months after passage of parental notification.

In Minnesota, the teen abortion rate declined by an average of 28% between the years 1981-1986 following the adoption of its parental notification law.

Texas saw its teen abortion rate drop 30% after enacting parental notification.

Like these state statutes, the National Pro-Life Alliance’s bill requires parental notification before a minor’s abortion.

However, since the Parental Notification and Intervention Act additionally gives either parent in all fifty states the power to stop teen abortions, the Parental Notification and Intervention Act would clearly save considerably more babies’ lives than these examples.

## Alliance Members Step Up Pressure for Action on Parental Intervention

As National Pro-Life Alliance staff gears up for a second round of lobbying in support of H.R. 1295, NPLA Executive Director Mary King is urging members to call their Congressmen and insist that they support the Parental Notification and Intervention Act.

“The strength of the National Pro-Life Alliance is in its members,” said King.

“It’s vital that Representatives hear directly from their constituents regarding this important legislation – not just from NPLA staff.

“We’re counting on another outpouring of support from members to create the pressure necessary to force the hand of Congress in defense of the unborn babies whose lives are threatened by abortionists preying on vulnerable teens.”

King urges members to send the enclosed post cards to their Congressmen and encourage them to cosponsor the Parental Notification and Intervention Act (H.R. 1295) today.



# '08 Presidential Survey Puts Candidates on Record

## *Support for Life at Conception Act True Measure of Pro-Life Commitment*

With state after state seeking to be among the first to hold their presidential primary, this year the campaign for President is underway earlier than ever before.

And with Presidential campaigns now kicking into high gear, the National Pro-Life Alliance is also putting presidential hopefuls from both parties on record on specific pro-life legislation and, most importantly, on the ultimate question of when protection of life begins.

With the fates of literally millions of unborn children at stake, the positions of candidates for the nation's highest office are critical.

A reading of the two major parties' national platforms reveals a night and day difference between Republicans and Democrats regarding the defense of the unborn.

### **Entire Field of Democrat Candidates Support Abortion-on-Demand**

The Democrat platform supports abortion-on-demand for any reason throughout all nine months of pregnancy. Furthermore, the Democrat platform supports a woman's "right" to choose to kill her unborn child "regardless of her ability to pay."

So, in essence, the Democrat platform maintains that abortion-on-demand is not only a "right," but also that taxpayers should be forced to pay for the destruction of innocent human life in the womb.

The national Republican platform, on the other hand, states:

"We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and we endorse legislation to make it clear that the Fourteenth Amendment's protections apply to unborn children."

With such diametrically opposed positions regarding abortion, one would expect such a stark contrast to be reflected within the field of Presidential candidates.

Unfortunately, while Democrat candidates for President uniformly embrace the abortion-on-demand position of their national party platform, the positions several leading candidates for the Republican nomination range from ambiguous to bla-

tantly contradictory to the party's platform.

### **Reps. Hunter and Tancredo and Sen. Sam Brownback Respond 100% Pro-Life**

Of the nine Republican candidates, three candidates are early responders to the 2008 Pro-Life Presidential Candidate Survey.

Among other issues, the survey asks the candidates if they would push for and sign a Life at Conception Act which would legislatively end abortion-on-demand by declaring the unborn to be legal "persons" entitled to the right to life under the Fourteenth Amendment. The survey also asks if the candidates will commit to nominate only federal judges who will uphold the Constitutional protection of life – and refuse to invent abortion "rights."

Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA), Congressman Tom Tancredo (R-CO) and Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS) all responded 100% pro-life.

Congressmen Hunter and Tancredo have backed up their pledge with action. Duncan Hunter is the lead House sponsor of a Life at Conception Act. Tom Tancredo has also cosponsored the legislation.

While Senator Brownback has pledged to cosponsor a Life at Conception Act in the Senate, he and his staff have so-far declined requests by NPLA staff and members to introduce a companion to the House bill.

The remaining Republican Presidential candidates have so far failed to respond.

And looking at the records of the top tier of candidates in recent polls gives cause for concern and strong reason for National Pro-Life Alliance members to pin down these candidates on specific pro-life legislation.

### **GOP Platform Endorses Life at Conception Act -- Are Candidates Listening?**

Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani has consistently polled ahead of the pack on the Republican side. He sup-

ports taxpayer-funded abortion and has opposed a ban on the gruesome partial-birth abortion procedure.

Former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney for years publicly supported abortion. He now claims to be pro-life and has publicly stated that he supports the entire Republican Party platform. But Pro-Life Alliance President Martin Fox is calling on Romney to clarify contradictions.

Romney opposes a Human Life Amendment banning abortion and has so far failed to publicly support a Life at Conception Act – both of which are part of the Republican Platform he claims to support.

At press deadline for this issue of *Life-Line*, Former Tennessee Senator Fred Thompson has just officially entered the race for the Republican Presidential nomination. Early polls have Thompson trailing Giuliani and leading Romney.

While some Thompson supporters have lauded him as a new Ronald Reagan, there is considerable pro-life concern centering around Thompson's past responses to candidate surveys from both pro-life and pro-abortion groups.

In those surveys, Thompson did support "reasonable" regulation of abortion and opposed public funding of it. But he opposed banning abortion saying that the "federal government should not interfere with individual convictions and actions in this area."

### **Life at Conception Act True Measure of Politicians' Commitment to Unborn**

"Many candidates presume that pro-life voters will pull the lever for them in the voting booth simply because of the party designation next to their name," explained National Pro-Life Alliance President Martin Fox.

But Fox points out that Republicans lost many seats last year due to their lack of strong action in support of substantive legislation like a Life at Conception Act.

Fox pledges to widely disseminate the candidates' positions on the Pro-Life Alliance Presidential Candidate Survey.



# Abortionists Cling to Activist Judges to Save Abortion-on-Demand

## NPLA Beefs Up Legislative and Judicial Campaigns to Overturn Roe

Members of the National Pro-Life Alliance know that their best opportunity to both limit and overturn *Roe v. Wade* is to fight legislatively.

Yet, at the same time it is important to battle the abortionists on all fronts including the Federal Courts.

Many National Pro-Life Alliance members well remember the bruising but successful battles that they and other pro-lifers fought over the nominations of Supreme Court Justices John Roberts and Samuel Alito.

But it is less known that currently more than forty federal judicial nominations are being held up by the abortionists in the Senate – principally because these nominees oppose inventing nonexistent “rights” that exist nowhere in the U.S. Constitution.

### Unelected Federal Judges Expand Roe “With a Vengeance”

Although the nine members of the U.S. Supreme Court receive the most attention, the life-term appeals court judges in twelve different Circuit Courts around the country also wield enormous power.

NPLA Executive Director Mary King frequently reminds pro-lifers of the additional millions of unborn lives lost due to decisions by appeals court judges.

“While it is true that the Supreme Court invented a national ‘right’ to an abortion out of thin air in *Roe v. Wade*, many lower court judges have extended this invention with a vengeance.”

### Pro-Abortion Lobby Guards Abortion Litmus Test

Since an unlimited right to abortion-on-demand under any circumstance has little support among the public or elected officials, the abortion lobby fights with extreme fervor to maintain their hold on the federal court system.

A point man for the abortion lobby in the United States Senate is Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), who has never met any abortion so outrageous that he wouldn’t vote to protect it.



**Judge Samuel Alito meets with grass-roots supporters organized with the help of NPLA staff outside of the contentious Senate committee hearings before his confirmation to the U.S. Supreme Court.**

Aware of the flimsy foundation for *Roe v. Wade*, Schumer is adamant that the Senate should not confirm another Bush nominee to the U.S. Supreme Court “except in extraordinary circumstances.”

### Even With Backlog, Appellate Court Seats Remain Empty

That’s why there are a record number of seats on the federal courts.

There are 16 vacancies on U.S. Appellate Courts. Incredibly, one seat has been vacant for 13 years.

Not only are these courts powerful, but Presidents often look to the appeals courts to find Supreme Court nominees. In fact, all of the current Supreme Court justices served on U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal prior to their elevation to the Supreme Court.

### Harry Reid Says Judges Who Dissent from Roe Need Not Apply

The abortion lobby specially goes after any nominee with any associations or opinions that might indicate the nominee does not buy their “*Roe* is sacred” doctrine.

For example, **Peter Keisler**, a nominee for the D.C. Circuit Court, was a former director of the Federalist Society, an organization that has both criticized *Roe* and educated law students about the dangers of its “raw exercise of judicial power.”

That, combined with the fact that Keisler is a former law clerk to anti-*Roe* Judge Robert Bork, resulted in Keisler’s nomination being sidelined by Senators Kennedy and Schumer.

**Robert J. Conrad, Jr.** is another appeals court nominee hated by the abortion lobby.

While working for the Justice Department, Conrad wrote an article titled, “Planned Parenthood, A Radical, Pro-Abortion Fringe Group.”

Abortionists are livid by his statement that “Planned Parenthood knowingly kills unborn babies, not fetuses, as a method of ‘post-conception’ contraception, and to them that’s OK.”

He thrashed Planned Parenthood as the “most radical legal advocate of unfettered abortion-on-demand,” and argued that they

See **Justice Denied: Pro-Life Judges Railroaded ...** page 8

# Justice Denied: Pro-Life Judges Railroaded by Pro-Abortion Litmus Test

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**NPLA Executive Director Mary King unveils a series of hard-hitting TV ads at a press conference at the U.S. Capitol. The targeted ads warned 13 pro-abortion Senators against using a litmus test to block the Supreme Court nomination of Judge Samuel A. Alito, Jr.**

the unborn a constitutionally protected status.

## Don't Like Your Judges? NPLA-Drafted Bill Would Remove Their Jurisdiction

Another approach to tackle the problem of blatantly pro-abortion judges is to simply remove the issue of abortion from the courts.

That's why the National Pro-Life Alliance drafted the Sanctity of Life Act, which simply uses Congress' power to establish the courts' jurisdiction under Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution and removes the power of unelected federal judges to decide any cases concerning abortion.

Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) introduced this bill in February.


## NPLA Executive Director Urges Continued Support of Judicial Nominees

"Of course," pledged Mary King "whenever President Bush sends us nominees with a clear record, Pro-Life Alliance members will continue to go all out to see them through."

For example, on just the first day of hearings on the nomination of Judge Samuel Alito, NPLA members pitched in to purchase an opening salvo of 751 television ads in seven targeted states demanding an end to the pro-abortion litmus test against Judge Alito.

The National Pro-Life Alliance also carried out an extensive petition campaign, cranked up phone banks alerting pro-lifers of the crucial battle in the Senate, and generated more than 165,000 post cards, petitions and actiongrams to Senators urging Alito's nomination.

Chief Justice John Robert's nomination sparked a similar campaign.

While it still is not known with certainty how Roberts and Alito would rule on a direct challenge to *Roe*, the two jurists did provide the margin of victory in *Gonzales vs. Carhart* to uphold the federal Partial-Birth Abortion Ban law. 

do nothing to reduce teen pregnancy.

Not surprisingly, Judge Conrad's nomination is also on hold.

## NPLA Fights a Multi-front Campaign to Overturn *Roe*

Although effective, these obstructionist tactics by a dedicated and radical minority do not discourage National Pro-Life Alliance Executive Director Mary King.

"Our members and staff will continue to lobby for honest judges when and where the opportunities arise," says King, "and we

have had some notable successes on the Supreme Court.

"But Pro-Life Alliance members have distinguished themselves by not moaning and twiddling their thumbs awaiting occasional judicial targets of opportunity.

"Pro-Life Alliance members know that there are at least two ways to legislatively overturn *Roe*, and we are actively pursuing both."

One of these means is a Life at Conception Act -- a bill that would use *Roe's* own language to define life as beginning at the moment of conception, thus granting

## LifeLine

**Abortion Stops a Beating Heart**

**Newsletter of the National Pro-Life Alliance**

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