

Massachusetts Citizens For Life MCFL NEWS

A Strong Voice for the Most Fundamental Human Right

Volume 28 Number 2 MASSACHUSETTS CITIZENS FOR LIFE NEWS May/June 2007

NRLC Urges Senate to Add Abortion-Neutral Language into Equal Rights Amendment

What follows is a letter sent by the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) to members of the U.S. Senate, dated March 29, 2007.

Re: S. J. Res. 10 ("Women's Equality Amendment" or "Equal Rights Amendment") and abortion

Dear Senator:

For the reasons explained below, the National Right to Life Committee (NRLC) urges you not to cosponsor or otherwise support S. J. Res. 10, sponsored by Senator Kennedy, unless it is amended in the fashion described below.

S. J. Res. 10 proposes a federal constitutional amendment that is now apparently referred to by some as the "Women's Equality Amendment," but which has long been known as the "Equal Rights Amendment" (ERA). According to the Washington Post (March 28), "House and Senate Democrats . . . vowed to bring it to a vote in both chambers before the end of the session."

S. J. Res. 10 would add to the Constitution the following amendment: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article." Congress proposed the same language to the states in 1972, with a seven-year ratification deadline. S.J. Res. 10 contains no deadline for ratification.

THE ERA-ABORTION CONNECTION
Leading pro-abortion groups — including NARAL, the ACLU, and Planned Parenthood — have strongly urged state courts to construe state ERAs to require tax-funded abortion on demand, and state ERAs have been so construed in New Mexico and Connecticut.



**Read about this latest 'legal weapon'
pro-aborts are using to dismantle abortion
regulation!**

The proposed federal amendment is very similar to the language of the ERA which New Mexico added to its state constitution in 1973, which says, "Equality of rights under law shall not be denied on account of the sex of any person." On November 25, 1998, the New Mexico Supreme Court ruled 5-0 that such language prohibits the state from restricting abortion differently from "medically necessary procedures" sought by men, and the court ordered the state to pay for elective abortions under the state's Medicaid program. (NM Right to Choose / NARAL v. Johnson, No. 1999-NMSC-005) (You can read the ruling and related documents on the ERA page of the NRLC website at <http://www.nrlc.org/Federal/ERA/Index.html>)

In its ruling, the court adopted the construction of the ERA urged in the case by Planned Parenthood, the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, the ACLU, the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, and the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund. The doctrine that the ERA language invalidates limitations on tax-funded abortion was also supported in briefs filed by the state Women's Bar Association,

Public Health Association, and League of Women Voters.

These briefs, and a court's agreement with their argument, should not come as any surprise to knowledgeable observers. During the 1970s and 1980s, many pro-ERA advocates insisted that there was "no connection" between ERAs and abortion, but NRLC warned otherwise. As we predicted, pro-abortion advocacy groups have increasingly employed the ERA-abortion argument in state courts, and in New Mexico we saw the devastating result of enacting an ERA that does not include explicit abortion-neutral language.

Once a court adopts the legal doctrine that a law targeting abortion is by definition a form of discrimination based on sex, and therefore impermissible under an ERA, the same doctrine would invalidate virtually any limitation on abortion. For example, under this doctrine, the proposed federal ERA would invalidate the federal Hyde Amendment and all state restrictions on tax-funded abortions. Likewise, it would nullify any federal or state restrictions even on partial-birth abortions or third-trimester abortions (since these are sought only by women). Also vulnerable would be federal and state "conscience laws," which allow government-supported medical facilities and personnel — including religiously affiliated hospitals — to refuse to participate in abortions. Moreover, the ACLU's "Reproductive Freedom Project" published a booklet that encourages pro-abortion litigators to use state ERAs as legal weapons against state parental notification and parental consent laws.

THE REMEDY: AN ABORTION-NEUTRAL AMENDMENT

All of the pernicious results outlined above could be avoided if the following "abortion-neutral-

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MCFL Annual Election on June 8th! See page 4 for details!

Massachusetts Citizens For Life MCFL NEWS

A Strong Voice for the Most Fundamental Human Right

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MISSION STATEMENT: In recognition of the fact that each human life is a continuum from conception to natural death, the mission of Massachusetts Citizens For Life, is to promote respect for human life and to defend the right to life of all human beings, born and preborn. We will influence public policy at the local, state and national levels through comprehensive educational, legislative, political and charitable activities.

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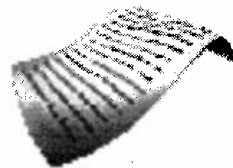
Urge Governor Patrick to Support Ethical Forms of Stem Cell Research

On March 30th Governor Patrick announced that he will push to reverse stem cell research regulations that were put in place by former Governor Mitt Romney. He restated his commitment to science researchers in Massachusetts and encouraged them to create human life (possibly using your tax dollars) for research purposes. Patrick stated to biotechnology officials that he believes that life sciences should be guided by science, not politics.

The regulations that the Governor would want removed were put in place to prevent embryo farming. What the Governor fails to recognize is that a human embryo has value and deserves respect and that science without ethics leads to disaster. Any society that fails to protect its most vulnerable citizens is setting itself up for annihilation. Please call the Governor's office at 617-725-4000 and tell him you oppose expansion of any kind for research on human embryos. You may post your comments to the Governor on his blog at: <http://devalpatrick.com>

Won't you please remember MCFL
when updating or preparing your
will or estate planning?

You are remembering our future generations!



MCFL Charitable Trust
Schrafft Center,
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For Life...Forever

Lobbying the Legislature

Federal Legislation:

STEM CELL RESEARCH

As the MCFL News goes to press, the United States Senate will debate and vote on two bills dealing with stem cell research and human embryos. One of the bills (S. 5) sponsored by Senators Harry Reid (D-Nevada) and Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), is to fund through your tax dollars, embryonic stem cell research. Embryonic stem cells are obtained by harvesting living human embryos which are usually 5 to 7 days old. The research in question in this particular instance will be on human embryos that are "leftover" from in vitro fertilization. The removal of embryonic stem cells results in the death of the human embryo a human being. The pro-life movement steadfastly believes that lawmakers on State and Federal levels should promote adoption, not destruction of human embryos. MCFL fully supports ethical forms of stem cell research such as stem cells taken from umbilical cords, placentas or adult tissues. This type of research has shown far more promise with documented cures in some cases.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

The ERA was reintroduced in both the House and the Senate on March 27. The National Right to Life Committee opposes a Federal ERA unless it contains an "abortion neutral" clause to prevent courts from striking down laws limiting abortion.

The proposed abortion-neutral amendment would read, "Nothing in this Article [the ERA] shall be construed to grant, secure, or deny any right relating to abortion or the funding thereof." Please see further story details in another part of this paper.

REGULATION OF "GRASSROOTS LOBBYING"

Legislation motivated by special interest groups is being pushed to regulate citizen or "grassroots lobbying". The legislation could impede a citizen's ability to communicate with his legislator. A host of organizations are opposed to this measure. A proposal to revise the legislation may be in the offing.

State Legislation:

An Act Relative to a Woman's Right to Know has been assigned to the Judiciary Committee and has been assigned as bill number H-1687. It is uncertain when the public hearing will be, however rumors abound indicating that the assignments for bill numbers and hearing dates have been a bit sluggish.

House Republican Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R- N. Reading) and Representative Paul Frost (R- Auburn) have crafted a **Fetal Homicide bill (H. 1517)** that was fashioned similar to the legislation introduced as a result of the Laci Peterson Case. The Laci and Connor law only applies to federal cases. Massachusetts is one of 24 states that does not have a state law protecting unborn victims of violence. This legislation recognizes that there are two victims and would allow for the prosecution of someone for the death of an unborn child. This is an excellent bill and we need to work vigorously to see that it is made law in our state.

As we go to press, we are told that, no date has been set for a public hearing on the **Buffer Zone bill (S. 1353)** introduced by Senator Jarrett Barrios (D-Cambridge). Massachusetts law established an 18 foot radius from any entrance door or driveway of a "reproductive health care facility" (abortion clinic). There is a 6 foot rectangle within this parameter that is a straight line that extends from the door or driveway to the street. It is unlawful to approach any person for any reason in this area without their consent. This proposal would substantially increase the size of the area to a 35-foot "buffer zone". The bill has been assigned to the Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. Senator Barrios and Representative Michael Costello (D-Newburyport) co-chair the Committee.

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Lawsuit Reveals 'Cruelty of Abortion Culture'

By Gail Besse

BOSTON — The lawsuit brought by a mother whose botched abortion resulted in her daughter being born alive unmasks the real cruelty of the abortion culture, Catholic pro-life advocates agree.

"The heart of the abortion culture is not about the rights of the mother. It's about making sure the baby is dead," said Father David Mullen of Bellingham, an executive board member of Massachusetts Citizens for Life. "The idea is sick — that doctors are supposed to kill a child in the womb and be punished if the child isn't dead."

The case made national news after the Boston Globe first reported it March 7. Although the incredible idea of so-called "wrongful birth" or "wrongful life" lawsuits has grown since the legalization of abortion, previous cases apparently centered on medical problems the babies had.

Although pro-lifers and spokesmen for the disabled repudiated such "quality of life" thinking, abortion advocates capitalized on this strategic legal wedge.

However, this proposed suit makes no mention of medical problems; rather it states the mother sought an abortion for financial reasons, according to the article.

On March 1, Jennifer Raper, 45, of Charlestown, filed a complaint in Suffolk Superior Court against Planned Parenthood and two doctors. She had given birth on Dec. 7, 2004 after a failed abortion, and is seeking damages and the cost of raising her 2-year-old daughter.

Dr. Allison Bryant, who worked for Planned Parenthood, performed the abortion in April 2004, but it "was not done properly, causing the plaintiff to remain pregnant," according to the medical malpractice complaint.

Raper then went to see Dr. Benjamin Eleonu at Boston Medical Center in July 2004, and he failed to detect the pregnancy even though she was 20 weeks pregnant at the time, the Globe reported. It was only when Raper went to the New England Medical Center emergency room for treatment of pelvic pain in late September that she found out she was pregnant, the suit said.

Father Mullen observed, "The parents aren't thinking about scarring the psyche of this girl for the rest of her life, when she realizes that every time they look at her they see a botched abortion."

Neither Planned Parenthood nor the doctors being sued for negligence are commenting on the complaint, which must be reviewed by a panel before the court determines if it will go to trial. That process could take about eight months, Raper's attorney Barry Reed Jr. of Boston said March 27. He and his client are also not commenting.

Father Mullen observed, "The parents aren't thinking about scarring the psyche of this girl for the rest of her life, when she realizes that every time they look at her they see a botched abortion. What they should be thinking is: Thank God the mistake we made didn't result in the death of our child. Obviously, somebody convinced this mother she might make some money here."

And Planned Parenthood's pockets do go deep, with much of its money coming from taxpayers. As the nation's leading abortion chain, it pulled in federal funding of \$272 million in 2005, twice what it made from its 255,000 abortions that year, according to the Family Research Council.

Genevieve Kineke of East Greenwich, R.I., author of "The Authentic Catholic Woman," said in an interview, "Sadly, this is the logical consequence of reducing the human person to a commodity. It follows that if life is not sacred (and even its value is driven by supply and demand) then a child is seen either as a tax break or a tuition bill, as an accessory or even a source of 'spare parts.'

"We are so dead to the hidden treasures, the joys and even rich sorrows that relationships can provide that we can't see past the price tag — and even if this woman wins her lawsuit, she will be the poorer for it."

Judie Brown, president of American Life League, commented about Raper, "Lord, how this woman must need our prayers." In an online article, Brown wrote that we now suffer from a mentality whereby people "see children as problems, pregnancy as an illness almost worse than cancer, and selfless love as a joke."

Since the legalization of abortion in 1973, almost 48 million American children have been killed.

"That the phrase 'wrongful birth' exists and a mother would ever conceive of making a legal case out of wishing her kid was never born does always seem to me a clear sign the end is nigh and Judgment Day won't be merciful to our national soul," National Review Online Editor Kathryn Jean Lopez wrote about Raper's suit.

After the case became public, the online pro-life news source LifeSite News summarized some previous "wrongful life" decisions. In 2003, a Canadian doctor was ordered to pay \$325,000 to parents whose child he failed to diagnose with Down syndrome before birth, and therefore in time to have her aborted.

In 2006, Ohio banned "wrongful life" lawsuits that claimed parents could have aborted their baby had a doctor diagnosed a disability in the unborn child. Father Frank Pavone of Priests for Life applauded lawmakers in a release saying, "The disabled are like everyone else. They're better off loved, not better off dead."

Also last year, an Italian court ruled such suits were invalid in Italy, saying there could be no such thing as a "right not to be born."

Most recently, the Vatican spokesman to the United Nations at Geneva emphasized the dignity of human life. In a March 23 address to the Human Rights Council, Archbishop Silvano Tomasi said, "The first right of children is that of being born."

Gail Besse (gailbesse@comcast.net) is a Massachusetts freelance writer.

This article appeared April 6 in The Anchor, the newspaper of the Diocese of Fall River, MA.

Factoid

A recent poll by the Polling Company showed most Americans *misunderstand* the Roe v. Wade decision.

While 65% say they are familiar with the 1973 Supreme Court decision, only 29% recognized that it made abortion legal in all circumstances throughout pregnancy. The majority thought it made abortion legal only in the first trimester of a pregnancy. Action Item - help people understand the truth about Roe!

*reprinted with permission
from Anglicans for Life*

MCFL Annual Meeting and Board Elections Friday June 8th, 2007

The Annual Meeting of MCFL

including the election of new board members and officers will be held on
Friday, June 8th from 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm in Devlin Hall, Room 008, Boston College

Please note: In order to be eligible to vote in the at-large election, an individual must be a dues-paying member of MCFL 30 days prior to the election (**May 9, 2007**). New membership forms and dues or membership renewals must be received by May 9th. This also applies to those who wish to be considered as candidates for the Board of Directors.

MCFL uses TWO TYPES of proxies at its Annual Meeting of the Board:

ALL PROXIES MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED.

1. **The Authorization proxy form** this form allows MCFL members who are unable to attend the annual meeting, the ability to transfer their voting privileges to another dues paying member who will then cast two votes in the annual board election. In essence, the non-attending member gives the attending member authority to exercise his vote. **All authorized proxies must be signed, dated, and are to be presented on the night of the Annual Meeting.**

2. **The Proxy to be exercised by the Clerk** This form is similar to an absentee ballot and allows members to cast their own vote by mail. This form is filled out by the non-attending member, **then MAILED back to the MCFL office no later than fifteen days prior (by May 24th) to the Annual Meeting. The form must be signed and dated and include the names of all declared candidates deemed eligible to run by the board development committee thirty days prior (May 9th) to the election.** No member whose proxy has been exercised by the Clerk shall be eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting.

ALL PROXIES MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED.

AUTHORIZED PROXY FORM

MASSACHUSETTS CITIZENS FOR LIFE, INC. ANNUAL MEETING

This proxy must be given
to the person who will exercise your vote at the June 8th Annual Meeting.

I, _____, a voting member of Massachusetts Citizens For Life, Inc., hereby appoint _____, a voting member of Massachusetts Citizens For Life, Inc., to exercise my vote regarding the election of Directors and any other matters that may be placed before the membership at the Annual Meeting of Massachusetts Citizens For Life, Inc., on Friday, June 8th, 2006.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (printed): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Pursuant to Bylaw 2.7.1, Voting For At-Large Candidates For the Board of Directors:

"Proxies to be exercised by the Clerk shall be received no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the annual meeting. Proxies to be exercised by the clerk must be on a form which includes all declared at-large candidates that are deemed eligible by the board development committee thirty days prior to the election. No member whose proxy has been exercised by the Clerk shall be eligible to vote at the annual meeting. Properly submitted biographical profiles of the candidates shall be distributed to the voting membership of the corporation."

Yolanda Barbier, Framingham (I)



Yolanda holds a degree in Labor and Industrial Relations. For the past three years she has worked in the medical field and witnessed the pain and bewilderment experienced by Hispanic and Brazilian women facing the prospect of having a baby in a foreign country and in difficult circumstances. She has seen first hand how these women are lead into the frightening decision of having an abortion without being informed of available alternatives. Yolanda feels she can bring this awareness to MCFL.

Yolanda has a strong educational background and has assisted MCFL's Education Director in presenting bi-lingual LIFE Education talks to high school youngsters. She understands the needs, the cultural differences, and the strong family values that characterize the Latin American community. She hopes her experiences can assist in MCFL's lifesaving mission.

June Newman, Braintree (I)



June told us she is excited to be part of the pro-life movement because she believes it is where the Lord would have her to be at this time in her life. She has been an active MCFL Board Member for several years. June is involved with the Walk Committee and for many years she has traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life. She has been actively involved in both the Interfaith Assembly for Life and the MCFL Annual Dinner. June is involved with Presbyterians Pro-Life and as a member of this group she travels each year

Continued on next page...

MCFL Annual Meeting and Board Elections Friday June 8th, 2007

to their General Assembly. This year's General Assembly will be held in Richmond, Virginia where June will have the opportunity to speak on pro-life issues, display a pro-life booth, and pray for the pro-life cause. She frequently writes pro-life articles for local newspapers. She has counseled at Daybreak Crisis Pregnancy Center and is a member of Veterans for Life.

Roy Scarpato, Wayland (I)



By profession an engineer, Roy is recently retired from service of the U.S. Government. He is married with four children and five grandchildren. Roy and his wife Anne, helped Dr. Joseph Stanton form MCFL in 1972. Roy was MCFL's first president (1972-1976). He helped re-form National Right to Life

Committee and was our delegate to National in 1973. He founded the Pro-Life Legal Defense Fund and was its President from 1974-1978. Roy is an active member of the Framingham Knights of Columbus and the Greater Framingham Chapter of MCFL. He has worked with many MCFL committees and has recently served as Chairman of the Board of MCFL. Roy currently serves as MCFL Treasurer.

Joseph Reilly, Waltham (I)



Joe has been an active pro-lifer since 1971. As Executive Director of Massachusetts Catholic Conference, he was instrumental in defeating abortion-on-demand in 1972, 260 to 20. A board member of the National Committee for a Human Life Amendment from 1974 to 1976, he was director and Executive

Committee member of MCFL from 1978 to 1984 and Board Chairman in 1978-1979 and 1979-1980 and again in 1987-1988.

Selected as MCFL's Executive Director in 1992, Joe served for three and a half years. Joe received two awards from MCFL for distinguished service and the Knights of Columbus's Pro-Life Man of the Year Award in 1983. Joe was elected MCFL's President for 2006 and his term will expire June 2007.

Edward Nazzaro, Revere (I)



Ed helped establish A Woman's Concern, a Pro-Life Crisis Pregnancy Center, in Revere. He is a stalwart of MCFL's North Suburban Chapter and served as the Chapter Director from 1996-1997. He serves on the Parish Council of Immaculate

Conception in Revere and is the pro-life representative and Rose Drive coordinator for the parish. He helped to organize the 1997 Dana Concert at St. Mary's in Franklin and the 1998

concert in West Roxbury. For several years he has helped organize the registration table at the Respect Life Walk for Mothers and Children. Ed is part of a team trained by the Archdiocese of Boston to give talks on end of life issues. He has addressed students in grades seven through ten in religious education programs.

Sandi Martinez, Chelmsford, MA



Sandi has been pro-life as long as she can remember. In 1966, when confronted with an unplanned pregnancy as a freshman in college, she could not even consider aborting her unborn child.

Over the years, she has counseled many women, including a sister, sharing her story, and affording many children the chance to live. In the 1980's, she chaired the Merrimack Valley Chapter of Massachusetts Citizens for Life, which met monthly in Chelmsford. In 1993, she gave up that position

to become the State Director for Concerned Women for America. During her 11 years as State Director, she had the opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder with many other pro-life organizations across the state, including the coalition which formed to defeat the Euthanasia Bill, and was often called upon to testify at the State House on issues of life and sexuality education.

During the late 80's, she marched in the annual October Respect Life Walk with her three small children, and she also would represent CWA with a table where she was able to distribute much of her pro-life literature.

She was called upon to judge the pro-life essay contest more than once and often attended the various events held to promote life in Massachusetts. In addition, over the years she has hosted her own cable access TV show where pro-lifers are given a platform. Some of her notable guests include Evelyn Reilly of Massachusetts Family Institute, Dr. John Diggs, Linda Thayer, and Leslie Unruh of the Abstinence Clearing House.

In 2005 she decided to run for State Senate, and was endorsed by many groups for her openly pro-life stands. She would be honored to serve on the board of MCFL in any capacity that is afforded to her.

More candidate info continued on page 6...

ALL PROXIES MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED.

PROXY TO BE EXERCISE BY THE CLERK MASSACHUSETTS CITIZENS FOR LIFE, INC. ANNUAL MEETING

This proxy must be received at the MCFL State Office by Thursday, May 24th.

Please do not vote for more than 10 candidates.

<input type="checkbox"/> Yolanda Barbier (I)	<input type="checkbox"/> June Newman (I)
<input type="checkbox"/> Joseph Reilly (I)	<input type="checkbox"/> Roy Scarpato (I)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandi Martinez	<input type="checkbox"/> Edward Nazzaro (I)
<input type="checkbox"/> Melanie L. Hayden	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Mail proxy to: ATTN: CLERK, MCFL,
The Schraft Center
529 Main Street
Boston MA 02129-1100

Continued from page 1...

amendment" — originally proposed by Congressman Sensenbrenner in 1983 — is added: "Nothing in this Article [the ERA] shall be construed to grant, secure, or deny any right relating to abortion or the funding thereof."

This proposed revision would not change the current legal status of abortion, nor would it permit the ERA itself to be employed for anti-abortion purposes. Rather, the revision would simply make the ERA itself neutral regarding abortion policy.

NRLC would withdraw its opposition to the proposed federal ERA if this abortion-neutral amendment was added.

THE THEORY THAT THE ORIGINAL 1972 ERA IS STILL ALIVE BEFORE THE STATES ("THREE-STATE STRATEGY")

Cuiously, at the same time they are urging Congress to approve a new federal ERA, many ERA proponents insist that the ERA which Congress approved in 1972 is still eligible for ratification by state legislative bodies. They also insist that only three more ratifications are needed to make the 1972 resolution part of the Constitution. The legal reasoning behind this "three-state strategy," originally set forth in 1994, is quite unpersuasive — so much so, that not a single state legislature has passed a ratification resolution in the 13 years since the theory was concocted. The most recent such attempt, just last month, was voted down in a committee of the Arkansas House after 20 House members withdrew their cosponsorships.

It appears that the architects of S. J. Res. 10 must be doubtful about the claim that the 1972 ERA is still alive before the state legislatures. After all, it would not make much sense for Congress to send to the states a proposed constitutional amendment, beginning the entire ratification process from square one, if the identical language really is still pending before the state legislatures.

CONCLUSION

In summary: If S. J. Res. 10 is brought to the House floor, NRLC will urge adoption of the remedial abortion-neutral amendment. If the amendment is not adopted, NRLC will oppose passage of S. J. Res. 10, and will include the roll call on passage in its scorecard of key pro-life roll calls of the 110th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration of NRLC's position on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Douglas Johnson, Legislative Director NRLC
Susan Muskett, J.D., Congressional Liaison NRLC

Candidates Continued from page 5...



Melanie L. Hayden, Cambridge, MA

As an adoptee born on the fifth anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, Melanie was very young when she realized the importance of the pro-life movement in her own life. She was five years old when she attended her first March for Life in Washington DC and has been a committed pro-lifer ever

since. She has been a member of state and national pro-life groups for more than ten years, and helped to found a Right to Life chapter on her college campus.

For the past three years she has worked as Director of Development and Communications for Massachusetts Family Institute, where she has been active in legislative battles including embryonic stem cell research, and has served as the organizer of MFI's annual fundraising banquet. Melanie is particularly committed to expanding the pro-life network among college students and drawing attention to the physical and psychological effects of abortion on women.

Lobbying Continued from page 2...

Please ask your legislators to oppose an increase in the size of the buffer zone. This legislation places additional severe restrictions on the ability of people to provide important information to women on the right to life issue. Because it is literally a matter of life and death, it is urgent that we defeat this bill.

(H. 1734) An Act Relative to Public Health is of grave concern because if passed it would repeal a number of statutes relating to abortion that are the last bastions of protection for women. It would repeal various statutes of the MGL pertaining to penalties (prison for five to 20 years) for doctors who perform illegal abortions that result in serious injuries or the death of a patient, penalties for persons who sell or distribute any drug or instrument that could cause an abortion and the removal of the hospitalization requirement for an abortion if a woman is beyond her thirteenth week of pregnancy.

The bill is presently before the Judiciary Committee and has not been assigned a date for a public hearing.

(S.288) The Health Education bill Last year, pro-abortion lobbyists teamed up with educators who were in support of a radical health education plan for Massachusetts public schools. The activists met at the State House for a lobby day to support a curriculum designed for public school students from kindergarten through grade 12. Under the program, students would receive "comprehensive health education". The plan was pushed by dozens of lawmakers and a coalition of pro-abortion groups. The legislation was sent to a study committee during the last session and never became law. The Health Curriculum Frameworks implementation bill has been reintroduced for the 2007-2008 session. The bill that would ensconce the Frameworks into law is known simply as the "Health Education" bill (S. 288). The chief sponsors this year are Sen. Edward Augustus (D-Worcester) and Rep. Alice Wolf (D-Cambridge). We are told that this legislation will take aim at primary and secondary schools.

The bill has been assigned to the Education Committee and to date they have not scheduled the public hearing for it. The Education Committee usually holds hearings in May, June, and July, with a break in August. They will reconvene in September. MCFL will furnish the hearing date as soon as it is available. Please make every effort to attend this very important hearing. It would be helpful to present testimony or lend others support by your presence.

The following legislators are members of the Education Committee:

Chairman: Sen. Robert Antonioni (D), Rep. Patricia Haddad (D),
Members: Sen. Edward Augustus (D), Rep. Geraldine Creedon (D), Sen. Pamela Resor (D), Rep. Douglas Peterson (D), Sen. Karen Spilka (D), Rep. Stephen LeDuc (D), Sen. Diane Wilkerson (D), Rep. Alice Wolfe (D), Sen. Scott Brown (R), Rep. Alice Peisch (D), Rep. Martha Walz (D), Rep. Robert Rice (D), Rep. Rosemary Sandlin (D), Rep. Jeffrey Perry (R), Rep. Richard Ross (R)

This is a call to action for all Massachusetts parents and grandparents. Please do all you can to inform others about this very dangerous proposal. You can download copies of this critique on the Frameworks from the MCFL home page at www.masscitizensforlife.org. We will update our site as we receive information. For further information call the MCFL office at: 617-242-4199.

A number of bills have been introduced for this session and some still do not have assigned numbers or hearing schedules at this time. Some of the legislation involves removing certain definitions or protections from human embryos, encouraging the Commonwealth to initiate programs and incentives to promote research and development in the Bio-tech industry, expanding the definition of the Baby Safe Haven law, further access to birth information, and a bill to address end of life care. If you would like further information on any of these bills please call the MCFL office.

PLLDF features Phill Kline as Keynote Speaker at Annual Dinner

Activist Attorney General, first prosecutor since *Roe v. Wade* to obtain Planned Parenthood records.

Phill Kline is a fifth-generation Kansan who was sworn in as the 41st Attorney General in Kansas history on January 13, 2003, and who now serves as District Attorney in Johnson County, Kansas.

Phil Kline practiced law full time as a litigator with the Kansas City firm Blackwell Sanders until he was elected to represent Shawnee in the Kansas House of Representatives in 1992.

During his eight years in the House, Phill Kline was recognized as a leader in the fight for crime victims' rights, welfare reform, and more responsible government. He authorized six new crime victims' rights laws, co-wrote Kansas' welfare reform, and was recognized as "Legislator of the Year" by the state's developmentally disabled and mental health communities.

As Kansas Attorney General, Phil Kline continued his efforts to protect the most vulnerable in our society: our children, seniors, and the developmentally and physically disabled.

As Attorney General, Kline initiated an investigation into child rape, failure to report child rape and criminal late-term abortion. The investigation led to a judge issuing subpoenas for 90 abortion records after finding probable cause to believe that crimes have been committed, from the Kansas City clinic of Planned Parenthood and the clinic of late-term abortionist George Tiller of Wichita. In a running four year legal battle that twice went to the Kansas Supreme Court Kline was defeated in his re-election effort by a candidate who received hundreds of thousands of dollars of abortion industry support and who also promised to end Kline's investigation of the abortion clinics.

In December, Kline provided some of the evidence obtained to a Sedgwick County District Judge in Wichita who found probable cause to believe that George Tiller committed multiple crimes. Tiller was ordered to appear in criminal court to answer the charges but before the court date, Democrat Sedgwick County District Attorney Nola Foulston, without notice to Kline's office, approached a different judge who had not review the evidence and who is also a Democrat, and in a five minute meeting obtain an order dismissing the charges against Tiller.

The charges filed alleged that Tiller repeatedly provided illegal late-term abortions and public

documents show that children as young as ten have had abortions at Tiller's clinic. Those children are victims of rape and Kansas law requires the report of child rape by medical professionals.

Furthermore, federal law provides that if Planned Parenthood violates state laws requiring the report of child rape that Planned Parenthood will lose its federal funding which amounts to approximately \$275 million a year. It is perhaps for this reason that Attorney General Kline was named along with Chief Justice John Roberts, Justice Samuel Alito, James Dobson and Father Frank Pavoine as a domestic terrorist by Planned

Parenthood. Kline was the only elected official named by Planned Parenthood.

Kline's office appealed the dismissal; however, newly elected Democrat Attorney General Paul Morrison dismissed the appeal.

Kline became the first prosecutor since *Roe vs. Wade* to obtain abortion records from Planned Parenthood in an investigation of Planned Parenthood. As Johnson County District Attorney

As Attorney General, Kline initiated an investigation into child rape, failure to report child rape and criminal late-term abortion. The investigation led to a judge issuing subpoenas for 90 abortion records.

Kline has indicated that the investigation continues but refuses to provide comment on the investigation.

In January of 2007, Mr. Kline was sworn in as District Attorney for the 10th Judicial District of Kansas, in Johnson County, where he and his staff of over 100 people prosecute more than 8,000 criminal

Memorials

March 2007

Paula LeClaire

Given by Paul LeClaire

David Vadnais

Given by Paul & Jean Vadnais

Dr. Philip P. McGovern, Jr.

Given by Barbara Potter

Benjamin Mark Bruno

Given by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bruno

Barbara Lydon

Given by The Claire Lydon Family

John Joseph Ferris

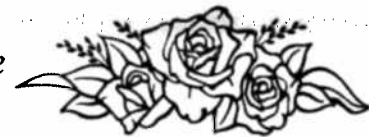
Given by Clement & Mary Ferris

April 2007

Ruth Shay

Given by Mary O'Leary

Rose



Drives

West Roxbury Chapter St. Thomas Acquinas \$ 110.00
East Boston/Winthrop Chapter Sacred Heart \$ 110.00

The Choose Life License Plate

supports adoption as an alternative to abortion.



"It would all be worth it if just one woman chose to give her child life and place him or her with a loving adoptive couple"

- County Commissioner Randy Harris

Why wait?

Surf the web to www.machoose-life.org
or call 781.224.0404 to register today!

Pro-Life Events Calendar

3rd Saturday of every month,
Meet at 8am at St. Stephen's Church for the monthly prayer vigil to end abortion at Framingham Union Hospital. This month, on June 16th, breakfast will be served at the St. Stephen School Gym immediately following the vigil to commemorate this group's 5th anniversary.

Thursday, May 1st
32nd Annual Mother's Day Dinner for the Pioneer Valley Region of MCFL. This event will be held at Chez Josef in Agawam, MA.

Saturday & Sunday, May 12th, 13th
Look for your local Chapter's Mother's Day Rose Drives!

Saturday, May 12th
Introduction to Theology of the Body Seminar. Join Christopher West for a thought provoking presentation that will enrich your understanding of human sexuality and the spiritual power it contains. To preview materials go to: www.ChristopherWest.com. Conference will be held from 9:30am-4pm at the Marian Community Spiritual Life Center. Early Registration will be \$25 per person. Registration after April 20th will be \$30. Price includes coffee, lunch and seminar workshop. All women religious \$15/person. All deacons with spouses \$40. Contact Stephen Colella 617.746.5812 or visit www.oymboston.org for more information.

Friday, June 8th,
MCFL Annual Meeting and Board Elections. Boston College, Devlin Hall Room 008.

Thursday - Saturday, June 14th-16th
35th Annual National Right to Life Convention will be held in Kansas City. The National Right to Life Convention is the most important pro-life educational event of the year. For more information please visit www.nrlc.org/convention.

Saturday & Sunday June 16th, 17th
Look for your local Father's Day Rose Drives!



Life is Precious!

Please see Linda Thayer's Vocation of Love, Stem Cell Research and Pro-Life Presentation schedules online at www.masscitizensforlife.org!

Massachusetts Citizens For MCFL NEWS

A Strong Voice for the Most Fundamental Human

THE SCHRAFFT CENTER 529 MAIN STREET BOSTON, MA 02129

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