

December 19, 2017

Dear Members of Congress:

We are strongly opposed to Obamacare stabilization funding unless amended so such funds cannot be used for plans that include elective abortion. In addition, we will oppose any larger legislative package that includes stabilization funds for abortion-covering plans.

A stabilization fund proposed by Senators Alexander (R-TN) and Murray (D-WA) appropriates funds for cost-sharing reductions or CSRs. CSR funding provides additional payments to insurance companies who in turn will reduce or eliminate Obamacare copays and deductibles for certain individuals. Another stabilization fund proposed by Senators Collins (R-ME) and Nelson (D-FL) would make payments to abortion-covering insurance plans to reduce the cost of insuring high-cost patients. Both Alexander-Murray and Collins-Nelson payments are in the Obamacare funding stream and should not underwrite plans that cover abortion.

For decades, the Hyde amendment and other funding limitation amendments such as the Smith Federal Employee Health Benefits Program amendment prevented federal taxpayer funding for abortion or for insurance coverage that included abortion. In stark contrast, enactment of Obamacare ushered in a new era of abortion funding unleashing federal subsidies for insurance coverage that includes abortion on demand.

The Hyde amendment is about how taxpayer dollars are used, that is, it represents an exercise of taxpayers' conscience, but most importantly it saves lives. According to the Charlotte Lozier Institute, this amendment has saved over 2 million lives since 1976, when it was first enacted to prevent Medicaid funding for abortion.

Any Member voting for the Alexander-Murray proposal, or other Obamacare stabilization legislation not covered by the Hyde amendment, would not only be voting to sustain what many have called the largest expansion of abortion since *Roe v. Wade*, but would also be voting to directly appropriate taxpayer dollars for insurance that includes elective abortion.

Sincerely,

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