



NEW YORK STATE CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

465 State Street • Albany, NY 12203-1004 • Phone (518) 434-6195 • Fax (518) 434-9796
www.nyscatholic.org e-mail: info@nyscatholic.org

ABORTION EXTREMISM

“The Reproductive Health & Privacy Protection Act” and the “Freedom of Choice Act”

At both the state and federal levels, citizens now face unprecedented attacks on human life. Two radical legislative proposals promoting abortion-on-demand, both more extreme than the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Roe v Wade*, are pending before lawmakers. To stop them, your voice is needed now more than ever.

The “Freedom of Choice Act” (FOCA) now pending in Congress is a far-reaching bill that would declare a “fundamental right” to abortion in our land. It would elevate that right to a level equal to such rights as free speech and the right to vote, and permit absolutely no interference with that right.

FOCA would deprive the American people in all 50 states of the freedom they now have to enact even modest regulations on the abortion industry. FOCA would coerce all Americans into subsidizing and promoting abortion with their tax dollars. It would counteract any and all sincere efforts by government and others of good will to reduce the number of abortions in our country.

Parental notification and informed consent precautions would be outlawed, as would be laws banning procedures such as partial-birth abortion and later-term abortion. Abortion clinics would be deregulated.

The Hyde Amendment restricting federal Medicaid funding of abortions would be abrogated. FOCA would have lethal consequences for prenatal human life.

FOCA would have an equally destructive effect on the freedom of conscience of doctors, nurses and health care workers whose personal convictions do not permit them to cooperate in the private killing of unborn children. It would threaten Catholic health care institutions, social service agencies and schools.

Similarly, New York State lawmakers have introduced a state-level version of FOCA called the “Reproductive Health & Privacy Protection Act” (RHAPP). If enacted, this extreme bill could force doctors to perform abortions, compel the state’s prenatal care program to fund abortion, and coerce Catholic institutions into facilitating the destruction of innocent human lives. The right to abortion in New York State could trump all other rights, eliminating even the right to hold pro-life beliefs.

Please contact your elected officials using the contact information on the following page to help stop these radical proposals from becoming law.

TAKE ACTION NOW.

Oppose RHAPP.

Identify and contact your state officials today by going to www.nyscatholic.org. Click the "Take Action Now!" button and click the alert under "extreme abortion proposal."

Call your State Senator today through the Senate switchboard at 518-455-2800.

Call your Assembly representative through the Assembly switchboard at 518-455-4100.

Call Governor David Paterson at 518-474-8390.

Write to them at the following addresses:

Honorable David A. Paterson
Governor
State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Honorable _____
New York State Senate
Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable _____
New York State Assembly
Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12248

For more resources on RHAPP, including a video presentation, flyers and more, go to www.nyscatholic.org and click "Resources," then "Conference Publications," then "Stop the Radical Abortion Bill-Advocacy Materials." Materials are continually updated.

Oppose FOCA.

The bill is expected to be introduced soon in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives in this 111th Congress. You may read the text of last year's bill on-line by visiting the Library of Congress at <http://thomas.loc.gov> and searching under the 110th Congress by bill number using the number S.1173.

Contact your U.S. Congressional representative and two U.S. Senators at 202-224-3121.

Write to them at:

Honorable Charles Schumer
United States Senator
313 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator
531 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Sign the on-line petition against FOCA at www.fightfoca.com.

For more resources on FOCA, including camera-ready advertisements, bulletin inserts, Q and A, legal analysis and more, go to: www.nchla.org, and <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/FOCA>