

Talkers: Obamacare has an abortion problem

The Hyde Amendment

- For more than **40 years**, the Hyde Amendment has protected unborn babies and their mothers by ensuring that federal tax dollars don't fund elective abortion (abortion on demand) or healthcare plans that cover elective abortion.
- The Hyde Amendment applies to Medicaid and other programs funded through Health & Human Services.
- The Hyde Amendment is longstanding and historically bipartisan – but it's not permanent. Instead, it's known as a “rider” attached to government spending bills that must be renewed each year
- More than **2.5 million Americans**¹ are alive today thanks to the Hyde Amendment – enough people to fill more than 38 NFL stadiums.
- Taxpayer funding of abortion and healthcare plans that cover abortion lead to more abortions.
- **60%** of voters, including Democrats, pro-choice voters, and the majority of independents, oppose taxpayer funding of abortion.²
- Abortion is violence against babies and women, and no American should be forced to fund it.

The Abortion Problem with Obamacare

- The 2010 enactment of Obamacare was the **largest-ever** departure from the Hyde amendment and the largest legislative expansion of abortion since *Roe v. Wade*.
- Obamacare allows massive federal subsidies (taxpayer dollars) to assist millions of Americans with purchasing health insurance plans that include abortion.
- Democrats wrote Obamacare to specifically to avoid the Hyde amendment and as a result, abortion coverage in these plans is paid for with tax dollars using premium tax credits (PTCs) as well as cost-sharing reduction payments (CSRs) that reduce out-of-pocket costs for subsidized enrollees.
- Democrats falsely claim that Section 1303 of Obamacare applies Hyde to the ACA but this is not the case.
 - Section 1303 effectively created an accounting gimmick known as the “abortion surcharge” which allows health insurance plans on Obamacare exchanges to cover elective abortion and still receive taxpayer funds; so long as they collect the surcharge.

¹ <https://sbaprofile.org/hyde>

² <https://sbaprofile.org/polling#tax-funding>

- During his administration, Biden significantly expanded Obamacare subsidies as a form COVID-19 relief which in turn vastly expanded taxpayer funding for abortion through Obamacare.
- When taxpayer dollars buy a plan that covers abortion, **they are funding the abortion.**
- Congress must not further extend Obama's and Biden's legacies of taxpayer-funded subsidies that end the lives of countless unborn children.

The Pro-Life Solution

- **Obamacare needs to be protected by true Hyde policy** so that taxpayer dollars do not fund plans that cover elective abortion (abortion on demand).
 - This includes any extension of Obamacare premium tax credits (PTCs) as well as cost-sharing reduction payments (CSRs) by Congress.
- Since 2011, Congressional Republicans have supported bills like the “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act.”^{3 4}
 - If passed and signed into law, these bills would make the Hyde Amendment permanent in law – including prohibiting the use of Obamacare subsidies to purchase healthcare plans that cover abortions.
- We just defunded Big Abortion, but **our progress is lost if Americans are forced to fund abortion on demand through Obamacare.**

³ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/7/cosponsors>

⁴ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/186/cosponsors>