

## DIOCESE OF PALM BEACH

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Office of  
THE BISHOP

May 5, 2021

Dear Brother Priest:

I wanted to make you aware of new information from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops regarding the Hyde Amendment. This important news has been shared with your parish by our Director of Communications, Jennifer Trefelner, plus it has been posted on our Diocese of Palm Beach website and social media platforms.

I write to you today to personally request that you review this information on the Hyde Amendment and to do your best to promote it within your parish, as it is of utmost importance to us all. I want to also thank those of you who have assisted by sharing this information already.

What is the Hyde Amendment?

- The Hyde Amendment, contained in the federal government's annual appropriations legislation, prohibits federal funding of domestic abortions, except in cases of rape, incest or to save the life of the mother. It is a bipartisan provision that has been part of federal appropriations for 45 years (since 1976) and enjoys overwhelming public support, including strong support from low-income women, and women of color.
- The Hyde Amendment has served as the model for dozens of other federal policies that prohibit the government from funding abortion in other areas (for example, in foreign assistance programs, trafficking programs, community health programs, or health insurance). In addition to being widely supported by Americans, Hyde and Hyde-related policies save lives and respect the consciences of Americans. However, these policies are now under grave threat of being repealed.

Because Congress' process of determining the use of funds takes months, we will be needing your help at several points from now through the fall. However, it is critically important for Catholics to send a strong message before Congress moves forward to impose taxpayer-funded abortion.

The USCCB is targeting the first week of June for widespread action regarding the Hyde Amendment. The primary goal is for *millions of Catholics to sign the petition at [NoTaxpayerAbortion.com](http://NoTaxpayerAbortion.com)*. They need your help making that happen.

This first set of tools is for use within your networks, to raise awareness and distribute the petition via [NoTaxpayerAbortion.com](http://NoTaxpayerAbortion.com).

- [Graphics](#)
- [Flyer](#)
- [Infographic](#)

Because of the *incredibly high stakes* and **urgency** needed, the goal of public efforts is a massive *quantity* of signatures.

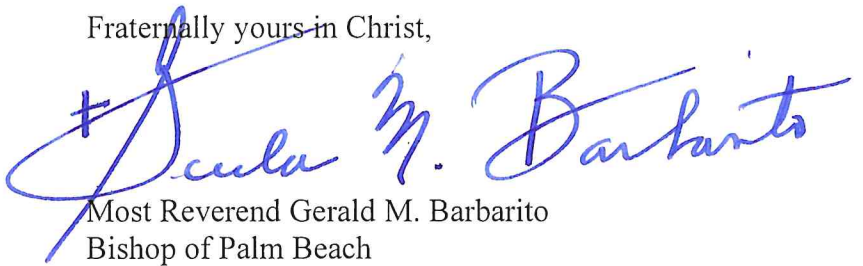
Below are additional resources for your benefit.

- [Backgrounder: Hyde Amendment and Related Policies](#)
- [Answers to Common Attacks against the Hyde Amendment](#)
- [Abortion is Not Healthcare](#)

The Diocese of Palm Beach will also have this information available on our website, social media, in the Florida Catholic, plus on the Parish Communication Link online, if you wish to share content through those avenues.

With gratitude for your assistance and every prayerful wish, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,



Most Reverend Gerald M. Barbarito  
Bishop of Palm Beach

GMB/amr