

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AMERICAN LIFE LEAGUE

Report from ALL's STOPP Program Hits Capitol Hill!

By Ed Martin, Director, Stop Planned Parenthood International

Congressman Pete Sessions, Republican of Texas, ran his finger down the list of Planned Parenthood CEO salaries.

"Wow. These Planned Parenthood people make a lot of money—taxpayers' money—and to promote abortion," he said. "You guys have to keep pushing this information. It's important."

Congressman Sessions was looking at STOPP's 2023 Report on Planned Parenthood CEO Compensation, which was published late this spring. The Sessions' meeting was the final meeting of a blitz of congressional staff and leadership by ALL executive vice president Hugh Brown and new STOPP director Ed Martin. Meetings included senior staff of Congressman Jason Smith (R-MO), who chairs the Ways and Means Committee, which oversees the IRS and "nonprofits" like Planned Parenthood. In addition, majority leader Steve Scalise's pro-life staffer Eric Schmitz was particularly interested in the report.

The report made the expected big impression and renewed conversations about defunding Planned Parenthood of

its more than \$700 million in taxpayer funding. And it reminded its readers of the commitment and insight of the late Jim Sedlak.

"We're standing on Jim Sedlak's



Congressman Sessions with ALL's Hugh Brown

Ohio Voters Reject Referendum

Abortion "rights" to be enshrined in state constitution?

In Ohio, pro-abortion advocates, including Planned Parenthood and the ACLU, outspent pro-lifers 5:1 in an August referendum that would have increased the required votes to change the Ohio state constitution from 50% to 60%.

The 57-43% outcome does not bode well for an amendment proposal coming in November, one that is billed as a "reproductive freedom" amendment backed by transgender groups such as URGE and the Human Rights Campaign.

This amendment would make so-called reproductive freedom a state constitutional right, one whose broad definitions would legalize abortion up to (and perhaps beyond) 40 weeks.

Planned Parenthood and the ACLU are preparing to introduce similar legislation in over 30 states just in time for the 2024 elections. American Life League will continue to spread the word and push back against these referenda in the coming months.

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From Our Supporters

Monica: I have been a supporter of American Life League since its beginning in 1979. I cannot say enough about the good that you are doing. And St. Michael the Archangel High School is another superb project. As a high school English teacher now retired, I follow your successes. And I pray they continue. Whenever I can promote life and your good work, I do it. Keep up the effort.

Paula: My son-in-law has been in the hospital with a terrible infection as well as severe back problems and needs prayers. I told him that I would ask you to pray for him, Judie, and he was so grateful. I love the work you do and am so happy it is centered on faith. God bless you all.

Ginny: Thanks, Judie, for your wonderful ministry. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to bringing about a culture of life. Prayers will continue for your success and for your health.

"We ought to speak, shout out against injustices, with confidence and without fear. We proclaim the principles of the Church, the reign of love, without forgetting that it is also a reign of justice."

Blessed Miguel Pro

More Than Half a Million Rosaries Prayed in the Past Year!

By Katie Brown, Director, Marian Blue Wave

This fall, the Marian Blue Wave program will turn four years old! The program continues to grow and to add new prayer partners to our legion of pro-life advocates dedicated to praying the rosary for an end to abortion violence.

In our last update, I told you all about the influx of new Marian Blue Wave prayer partners that overloaded the map on our website. This is certainly good news disguised as bad news! While it is a temporary inconvenience to have our interactive map down, the new map will be able to house thousands more MBW prayer partners.

As of this summer, we have about 10,000 prayer partners; they come from all 50 states and from 31 countries around the world. This means that in the last year, more than half a million rosaries have been prayed for the MBW intentions. This is more than double the amount that was prayed this time last year!

As the fight to end abortion rages on state by state, we have to trust that Our Lord has a plan. And yes, that is extremely difficult to do sometimes, especially when headlines seem to get worse every day.

But here's some perspective: We know how this ends. Our Lord will prevail. We, God's people, have to trust that all the different ways in which we work to protect life will blend together to one day rebuild our culture into one that respects every human life—born and preborn.

In the meantime, we will press on with our work! For the MBW and our prayer partners, we will continue to place faith in Our Lady's powerful intercession just as she asked of us at Fatima.

Our Lady of Life, pray for us!

CLSP Pro-Life Essay Contest Returns!

By Susan Ciancio, Director, Culture of Life Studies Program

As we approach Respect Life Month in October, we want to share some exciting news. The Culture of Life Studies Program's Pro-Life Essay Contest is coming back! Kids in 5th–12th grades have a unique opportunity to express their pro-life beliefs—and they have a chance at winning some amazing prizes! In a world that is growing increasingly intolerant of religious and pro-life values, we must help our children learn to articulate their thoughts and their feelings and give them the moral courage to do so. We want to teach them to be proud of their faith, to eloquently explain what they believe, and to never shy away from proclaiming the truth. The contest opens at the end of September. Visit **prolifeessay.com** for details!

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shoulders, using his tactics and his vision to shine a light on the Planned Parenthood killing machine," said Ed Martin. "It works, and I know Jim's looking down on us and helping us and encouraging our work."

The CEO report is one of the key Planned Parenthood reports that ALL publishes each year. The report highlights the massive scope and cost of Planned Parenthood's work. This year's CEO report included demographic data on the CEOs and revealed that the organization is both sexist AND racist, as it pays minorities and women less than others.

Katie Brown, ALL's director of communications, has been seen and heard on national media promoting the CEO report.



This was the inaugural effort of Ed Martin with ALL. He was recently named STOPP director after the invaluable service of Rita Diller. Ed is an attorney and bioethicist who served under St. John Paul II at the

Synod of Bishops in 1997. Ed has headed up an archdiocesan office (St. Louis, where he defunded pro-abortion groups), litigated pro-life cases (protecting pro-life pharmacists), and was chief of staff to the governor of Missouri. He lives in Northern Virginia with his wife and four children.

You can view STOPP's 2023 Report on Planned Parenthood CEO Compensation online at all.org/stopp/analysis.



Wisdom from Catholic Bishops

We encourage each of you to reach out with gratitude to these courageous bishops. Visit USCCB.org/find-a-bishop-and-diocese for contact information.



Bishop Michael Burbidge (Arlington, Virginia) released a statement for the one-year anniversary of the *Dobbs* decision. He stated, "In this shifting political landscape, we persist confidently in our efforts to defend life.

...The work that lies ahead continues to be not just changing laws but also helping to change hearts, with steadfast faith in the power of God to do so."



Bishop Robert Barron (Winona-Rochester, Minnesota) posted a message on social media about the latest Minnesota pro-abortion law. He stated, "I want to share with you my anger, my frustration over this

terrible law that was just signed by the governor in Minnesota.... It basically permits abortion all the way through pregnancy up to the very end. And indeed, indeed if a child somehow survives a botched abortion, the law now prohibits an attempt to save that child's life."



Archbishop Samuel Aquila (Denver, Colorado) said in a pastoral letter: "All of us must put our energy and effort into ending the legal protection for abortion. It is, and must be, the primary political objective of

American Catholics. It is difficult to imagine any political issue with the same significance as the sanctioned killing of children."



Bishop David G. O'Connell (Los Angeles, California), murdered in February of this year, was remembered in a LifeSiteNews article for his involvement in pro-life efforts, including "leading prayers vigils and

processions in front of Planned Parenthood abortion mills in California." He was remembered by Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez as "a man of deep prayer who had a great love for Our Blessed Mother," and as "a peacemaker with a heart for the poor and the immigrant, and he had a passion for building a community where the sanctity and dignity of every human life was honored and protected."

Our Nation Is Dying

By Judie Brown, President, American Life League

In the wake of the crippled United States Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision that betrayed preborn babies by telling states they could regulate the killing, it is safe to say that our fellow citizens are numb to what aborting a baby means. We have yet to see a single justice, let alone lawmaker, suggest that every preborn child deserves to live. When it comes to abortion, the US is dying, one preborn baby at a time.

The nation is suffering from something far worse than apathy. In fact, in my humble opinion it is brain dead already. This means that if we want to carry on the battle to define our fellow brothers and sisters prior to birth as persons under the full protection of law, we need to be more committed to the battle than before.

You see, the babies represent the lifeblood of this country, and their deaths are killing it in more ways than we can imagine. There is no emotion when abortion is the subject, even from those whom we elect to be steadfast in the defense of children. So we could throw in the towel, but of course that is not our style. We are in this to win it, as the saying goes.

It may sound trite to tell you once again, but say it I will. The answer to this devastating situation resides in a simple statement: The right to life is vested in each human being from the first moment of creation.

If those words or their equivalent, without compromise, were added to the United States Constitution and ratified by 38 states, the babies would once again be safe from the bloodthirsty. It

will be a struggle to achieve this goal, but it has always been the only goal that matters.

Perhaps it is time to resuscitate America by pushing forward with the grace of God and the sweat of our brows.

The babies are worth it, every single minute of every day.

New commentaries from Judie Brown and guest authors are posted daily at ALL.org!



The Paul Brown Chronicles CHAPTER 10

By Judie Brown

I thought it might be a good idea to complete my chronicles on the awesome man to whom I was married for nearly 53 years by telling you how he lived his pro-life convictions in his daily life. Paul never forgot a friend, and he never ceased to amaze me with his generosity. I remember him furnishing a home for someone who was unable to afford to do it on his own, and I remember him traveling hundreds of miles to be with his ailing friends on several occasions without ever complaining. But the most incredible gift was his abiding love for each of us who were blessed to be members of his family, even in his sufferings. Whether it was the broken leg he suffered after he took our young son down a slide and jammed his leg into the cement at the bottom, the hospitalization and pain he endured with an aortic aneurysm, or the pain he endured the last few months of his life, Paul never stopped putting his family first.

His smile was ever there, infectious and sincere. He loved life, even during the hard, the challenging, and the wrenching moments. He understood that love endures all, and that is what defined him. I could write a book about him, and maybe someday I will write his story. But regardless, he inspired many people, and I am grateful to be his biggest fan. I miss him terribly but am grateful to share the memories with you. Please pray for the happy repose of his soul.

