

News from Representative Randy Hultgren

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Dear friends,

The House has been hard at work on a number of legislative issues this month, from foreign policy to getting our economy growing again. I wanted to provide you with a special update on my work protecting women, minors and unborn children from the pain of abortion and the exploitation of abortion providers.

As you may know, officials from the nation's largest abortion provider, Planned Parenthood, were caught on tape describing and using the most grotesque and brutal tactics to harvest the lungs, livers, heads and hearts of aborted babies for profit. While disturbing, [I encourage you to watch the videos to understand the depravity of what goes on at Planned Parenthood clinics](#). **Their callous disregard for human dignity violates our nation's moral conscience and shared obligation to protect the defenseless.**

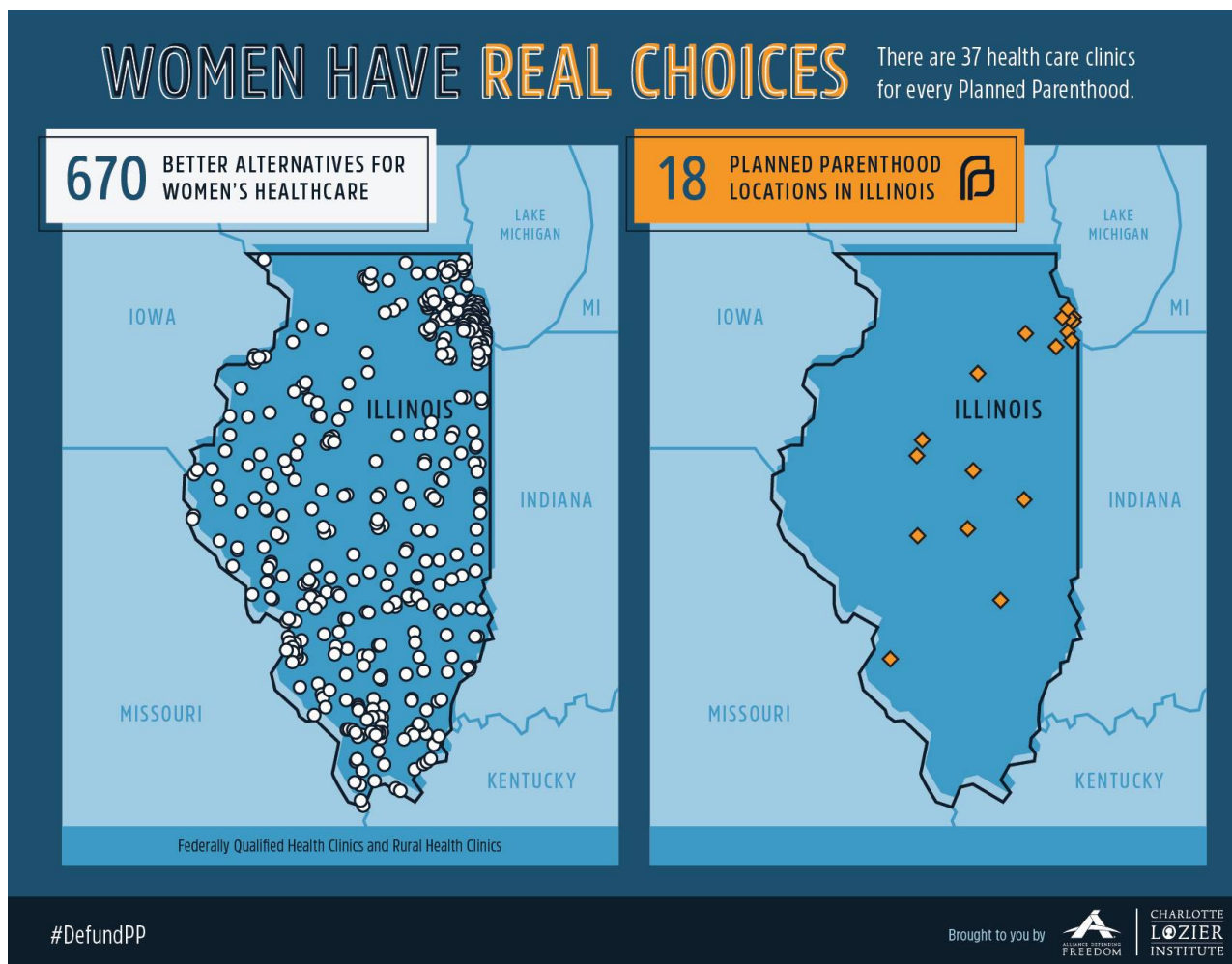
Yet Planned Parenthood receives half a billion in tax dollars every year. **I believe women and unborn children deserve better health care than Planned Parenthood can provide.**

Thousands of rural and community health centers provide comprehensive care for women, without engaging in these macabre practices that have been caught on tape for the world to see. Until Planned Parenthood answers for their actions, I don't believe Planned Parenthood should receive one more dime of taxpayer dollars. We should redirect funding to health centers providing real care for women, without abortion.

That's why I cosponsored and supported House passage of **H.R. 3134, the Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2015**, which provides for a one-year moratorium on all federal funding while the organization's activities are investigated. In the House, [three committees are investigating Planned Parenthood—click here for a timeline of action](#).

As this graphic below shows, women in Illinois have real choices when it

comes to healthcare. H.R. 3134 redirects funding to these health centers which provide comprehensive care.



Some key points about this bill:

- The funding limitation will not apply in the case of abortion resulting from rape, incest or the save the life of the mother.
- Redirects funding from Planned Parenthood facilities to Federally Qualified Health Centers (Community Health Centers). There are more than **13 times more FQHC Service Sites** (9,170) nationwide than Planned Parenthood centers (about 700).
- The bill provides that “Nothing in this Act shall be construed to reduce overall Federal funding available in support of women’s health.”

Further revelations show Planned Parenthood employees potentially killing babies who survive abortions to harvest their organs. As those caught on tape at Planned Parenthood and abortionist Kermit Gosnell demonstrated in truly disturbing fashion, aborted babies who survive the procedure have been left to die in a corner or on a tray—violating their constitutionally-protected rights to life and liberty, and their dignity as persons.

I believe abortion providers should provide the same standard of care to babies who survive abortion as those who are welcomed in a hospital delivery room—or face strong criminal penalties. Further, women exploited by abortion providers should be able to sue them for failing to provide proper care.

That's why I supported House passage of **H.R. 3504, the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act**, which would make failure to provide standard medical care to children born alive during an abortion a federal crime.

- The bill puts teeth into the original Born Alive law by making healthcare providers subject to up to five years in jail and/or fines if they don't provide the same standard of care to an infant born alive during an abortion that a wanted child would receive. It requires the infant be transported to the hospital. In addition, if a doctor actively takes the life of the baby who survives an abortion, they can be prosecuted under homicide law.
- The bill explicitly bars any prosecution of the infant's mother, and it gives her the option of suing the healthcare provider who does not treat or actively kills the surviving baby.

Passed this week, these two bills protect the human dignity of women and unborn children, and demonstrate our nation's strong moral tradition of defending the most vulnerable among us. I urge the Senate to act quickly on these important bills.

I have made it my commitment in Congress to stand up for life. Just this year, I:

- [Wrote in the Chicago Sun-Times about how women have real choices in Illinois for healthcare outside of Planned Parenthood.](#)
- [Took to the House floor](#) to denounce the brutal activities of Planned Parenthood, saying: "Callously discussing a menu of aborted body parts over lunch and red wine demonstrates a new level of depravity."
- [Urged the Department of Justice \(DOJ\) to conduct](#) "an immediate and thorough investigation into the practices of PPFA regarding the sale of fetal body parts."
- Urged Illinois to act on HR 0671, a resolution pushing the state to investigate Planned Parenthood and its abortion procedures.
- Supported House passage of H.R. 7, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2015, which codifies the patchwork of federal provisions to ensure no taxpayer dollars fund abortions except in cases of rape, incest and when the

life of the mother is at stake.

- Cosponsored the following legislation:
 - **H.R. 803, the Child Interstate Abortion Notification Act**, prohibits the transportation a minor child across a state line to obtain an abortion. The bill makes an exception for an abortion necessary to save the life of the minor.
 - **H.R. 816, the Life at Conception Act**, extends equal protection under the 14th Amendment to human beings at every stage of life, including the unborn. This bill guarantees the right to life everyone, and defines life as beginning at the moment of conception. A majority of Americans believe life begins at conception. Importantly, this bill does not authorize prosecution of any woman for the death of her unborn child.
 - **H.R. 36, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act**, stops abortions after 20 weeks, or five months, based on the child's ability to feel pain. A November 2014 poll from Quinnipiac found that 60 percent of Americans support legislation limiting abortions after 20 weeks. I previously cosponsored this legislation in the 113th Congress, which passed the House in June 2013 but died in the Senate.
 - **H.R. 940, the Health Care Conscience Rights Act**, a comprehensive bill that respects the religious freedom of Americans seeking health insurance, as well as the ability of the greater health care community to provide patient care in accordance with deeply-held, reasoned beliefs. Among other provisions, this would protect doctors from being forced to prescribe abortion-inducing drugs.
 - **H.R. 217, the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act**, prevents federal tax dollars from going to organizations that perform abortions, such as Planned Parenthood. [I have consistently held that no American should have to pay for someone else's abortion.](#)

As your representative, I always want to hear from you about issues that are important you, including an issue as important as abortion. Don't hesitate to email me using the Contact link at the top of this email, or comment on my [Facebook page](#) and tweet at me on Twitter ([@RepHultgren](#)).

In Your Service,



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