

ANTICIPATING A NEW PRO-LIFE ADMINISTRATION

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After surviving a heated political season, those in the pro-life movement look forward to a new administration with the promise of strong, life-affirming judicial and legislative action. The nation's 45th president will be sworn in on January 20, 2017, just two days shy of the 44th anniversary of the passage of *Roe v. Wade*, which ushered in abortion on demand in this country. Many will greet our new president with hope and prayers.

The 2016 Republican Party Platform, lauded as the most pro-life platform in the 162-year history of the party, sought for the first time a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Here is language from the platform:

“The Constitution’s guarantee that no one can ‘be deprived of life, liberty or property’ deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence’s proclamation that ‘all’ are ‘endowed by their Creator’ with the inalienable right to life.

“Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to children before birth.

We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare. We urge all states and Congress to make it a crime to ac-

quire, transfer, or sell fetal tissues from elective abortions for research, and we call on Congress to enact a ban on any sale of fetal body parts.”

Of primary concern to many Americans and of critical importance for the new administration will be the nomination of a strong pro-life justice to replace the seat vacated by Justice Antonin Scalia. Our new administration is poised to shift the balance of power on the Supreme

Planned Parenthood after learning of their practice of selling for profit aborted fetal body parts. Federal defunding of Planned Parenthood is a promise made by many politicians during the election.

Since 1973, the abortion industry and its supporters have betrayed millions of women and destroyed millions of lives in the womb. The industry, bolstered by pro-choice advocates, continually proliferates lies



Court. To pro-life conservatives, this is music to the ears of many, as the prospect of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned gets that much closer.

Among a myriad of federal legislation under consideration is the Conscience Protection Act, which would make permanent the Hyde-Weldon Amendment, prohibiting federal, state, and local governments from discriminating against health care providers, including hospitals, doctors, and nurses, that refuse to provide, perform, or refer for abortions.

Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider (and taxpayer-supported), could see its funding stripped away. A total of ten states have already voted to defund

to women that abortion is an easy, quick solution to their problems. Many women are never told that their unborn baby already has a heartbeat, that there are alternatives to abortion, as well as support to help them parent their child. Few are told about the possible physical and psychological risks of abortion, or the regret they could feel for decades after their child's irreversible abortion death. As a pro-life supporter and ministry leader, I see and hear the horrors of abortion every day.

While we are strongly encouraged by the positions of the Republican platform and the promises of the new administration, we must never grow complacent to the battles lying ahead of us. Our fight has just begun!