

Health care workers should not be required to violate their consciences by being forced to participate in abortions



Health care workers should not be required to violate their consciences by being forced to participate in abortions. Please [contact your members](#) of Congress now and advocate for freedom of conscience -- and the protection of life.

The Conscience Protection Act of 2017 (H.R. 644) was included in appropriations legislation and approved by the House last September. The Senate is being urged to include it in must-pass, end-of-year FY '18 appropriations legislation. The legislation was originally introduced in the House of Representatives by Reps. Diane Black (R-TN) and Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE) and in the Senate (S. 301) by Sen. James Lankford (R-OK). A list of co-sponsors of the House and Senate bills can be seen here ([H.R. 644](#)) and here ([S. 301](#)).

[Click here](#) to take action.

This much-needed, common-sense legislation will clarify federal law and ensure that those who provide health care and health coverage can do so without being forced by government to help destroy innocent unborn children. Please take a moment to let your members of Congress know that we expect them to protect our most cherished liberties.

On July 13, 2016, the House passed an identical bill of the same name (S. 304), but it was never enacted into law. We must continue to advocate for conscience protection for those who choose *not* to participate in abortion.

Please [act](#) now!

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In prayer and in public, your voices are urgently needed to bring Gospel values to bear on vital decisions being made by those who represent you.

[The Virginia Catholic Conference](#) is the public policy agency representing Virginia's Catholic bishops and their two dioceses.