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FIXED!

See how we just closed a massive loophole that would have let hospitals kill unborn disabled babies.

Texas Right to Life plugs abortion loopholes in healthcare bill

In a shocking move, an amendment to Senate Bill 7, which deals with a variety of health and human services and agencies, was secretly added in conference committee that requires Texas taxpayers to fund the abortion of unborn children who suffer fetal abnormalities or who suffer from conditions "incompatible with life!"

[I]f the fetus has a severe and irreversible abnormality incompatible with life after birth identified by reliable diagnostic procedures. The feedback from Pro-Life physicians is that this language could include babies with Down syndrome, Spina Bifida, Trisomy disorders, and other disabilities. The main concern is who would be deciding what is "incompatible with life after birth" - the abortion doctors? The House found this language so repulsive that House members squashed this language before it could reach the floor as an amendment, but somehow the amendment ended up in the bill.

Texas Right to Life opposed this broad and dangerous provision of SB 7, since this could have been precedent-setting if passed into law. Sadly, we had to furiously work behind the scenes to fix the language because a small, local advocacy group secretly agreed to this loophole language. Some legislators were then confused on the Pro-Life position on SB 7.

SB 7 is one of Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst's major health care savings bills, and we took the issue directly to him. As expected, he responded accordingly and bought us the **much-**



We closed the loophole on taxpayer funding of the abortion of disabled, unborn Texans. **Please thank and ask your State Representative and State Senator to vote for Senate Bill 7.**

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needed time to close the loophole on taxpayer funding of the abortion of disabled, unborn Texans.

With the help of Governor Rick Perry's staff, Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst and his staff, and over thirty House members, who have been working behind the scenes on this sensitive issue for two weeks, a deal was finally reached late yesterday. The lead negotiators for the Pro-Life House members were **Representative Sid Miller** (R-Stephenville and author of the landmark sonogram bill) and **Representative Bryan Hughes** (R-Mineola), two-time Texas Right to Life award recipient.

The bill was reopened, and language from Texas Right to Life was inserted, making clear that all life is precious and deserves protection, even unborn babies with disabilities. SB 7 will plug two more loopholes in taxpayer-funded abortion and keep the state from sponsoring in utero euthanasia of disabled, unborn babies.

Senator Jane Nelson (R-Flower Mound) and **Representative John Zerwas** (R-Richmond) authored the bill, and they were patient while the language in the bill was tightened despite the abbreviated time allotted for this special session. Their patience and cooperation fostered this tremendous step forward.

The final version of SB 7 could be eligible for a vote on Friday, June 24th. **Please call your State Representative and State Senator and ask them to vote for SB 7!**

Also, please encourage and thank the signers of the following letter in which House members asked for time to fix the language. This letter was extremely helpful in showing the members' resolve to protect the sanctity of innocent human life in SB 7. Thankfully, Senator Nelson and Representative Zerwas recognized the need to change the language and respected the wishes of the Pro-Life members.

Lastly, we thank you, our loyal supporters and activists. **Texas Right to Life stood virtually alone with our elected representatives in our efforts to correct the abominable loophole.** We shall tell more of this story at a later date. But suffice to say, together we stood on principle despite the costs, and **many innocent lives will be spared because you put Texas Right to Life on the front lines in Austin!**



House of Representatives

Dear Dr. Zerwas:

Thank you for your tireless work on SB 7 and other fiscal matters. We appreciate your patience and your calm demeanor while

members have presented and debated amendments concerning matters important to all of us.

Out of respect for you and the House, we limited the Pro-Life amendments to SB 7. While many more were germane and appropriate, we focused on three: the Zedler amendment (amendment 8), the Hughes amendment (amendment 7), and the Christian amendment (amendment 27).

Therefore, since we narrowed the focus and strategy of Pro-Life amendments to SB 7 so as to minimize controversy and tension, we, the undersigned, respectfully urge you to defend these amendments and to ensure that these Pro-Life provisions are kept in the Conference Committee Report.

Because we are proudly Pro-Life and these amendments are fundamentally important to us, we will be forced to vote against the Conference Committee Report to SB 7 if they are not included.

Respectfully,

Representative Jose Aliseda (R-Beeville)
Representative Charles Anderson (R-Waco)
Representative Rodney Anderson (R-Grand Prairie)
Representative Jimmie Don Aycok (R-Killeen)
Representative Marva Beck (R-Centerville)
Representative Leo Berman (R-Tyler)
Representative Dwayne Bohac (R-Houston)
Representative Dennis Bonnen (R-Angleton)
Representative Fred Brown (R-College Station)
Representative Cindy Burkett (R-Mesquite)
Representative Erwin Cain (R-Como)
Representative Bill Callegari (R-Katy)
Representative Stefani Carter (R-Dallas)
Representative Warren Chisum (R-Pampa)
Representative Wayne Christian (R-Center)
Representative Tom Craddick (R-Midland)
Representative Brandon Creighton (R-Conroe)
Representative Drew Darby (R-San Angelo)
Representative Joe Driver (R-Garland)
Representative Rob Eissler (R-The Woodlands)
Representative Gary Elkins (R-Houston)
Representative Allen Fletcher (R-Tomball)
Representative Dan Flynn (R-Van)
Representative John V. Garza (R-San Antonio)
Representative Larry Gonzales (R-Round Rock)
Representative Lance Gooden (R-Terrell)
Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rio Grande City)
Representative Mike Hamilton (R-Mauriceville)
Representative Kelly Hancock (R-North Richland Hills)
Representative Patricia Harless (R-Spring)
Representative Linda Harper-Brown (R-Irving)
Representative Chuck Hopson (R-Jacksonville)
Representative Charlie Howard (R-Sugar Land)

Representative Dan Huberty (R-Houston)
Representative Bryan Hughes (R-Mineola)
Representative Jason Isaac (R-Dripping Springs)
Representative Jim Jackson (R-Carrollton)
Representative Phil King (R-Weatherford)
Representative Tim Kleinschmidt (R-Lexington)
Representative John Kuempel (R-Seguin)
Representative Jim Landtroop (R-Plainview)
Representative Jodie Laubenberg (R-Parker)
Representative George Lavender (R-Texarkana)
Representative Ken Legler (R-Pasadena)
Representative J. M. Lozano (D-Kingsville)
Representative Lanham Lyne (R-Wichita Falls)
Representative Jerry Madden (R-Richardson)
Representative Sid Miller (R-Stephenville)
Representative Geanie W. Morrison (R-Victoria)
Representative Jim Murphy (R-Houston)
Representative Barbara Nash (R-Arlington)
Representative Rob Orr (R-Burleson)
Representative John Otto (R-Dayton)
Representative Tan Parker (R-Flower Mound)
Representative Diane Patrick (R-Arlington)
Representative Ken Paxton (R-McKinney)
Representative Aaron Peña (R-Edinburg)
Representative Charles Perry (R-Lubbock)
Representative Larry Phillips (R-Sherman)
Representative Joe C. Pickett (D-El Paso)
Representative Walter "Four" Price (R-Amarillo)
Representative Debbie Riddle (R-Tomball)
Representative Kenneth Sheets (R-Dallas)
Representative Ralph Sheffield (R-Temple)
Representative David Simpson (R-Longview)
Representative Todd Smith (R-Euless)
Representative Wayne Smith (R-Baytown)
Representative John T. Smithee (R-Amarillo)
Representative Burt R. Solomons (R-Carrollton)
Representative Larry Taylor (R-Friendswood)
Representative Raul Torres (R-Corpus Christi)
Representative Vicki Truitt (R-Keller)
Representative Randy Weber (R-Pearland)
Representative James White (R-Hillister)
Representative Paul Workman (R-Austin)
Representative Bill Zedler (R-Arlington)

Yours for Life,



Elizabeth

Elizabeth Graham
Director

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What we do

No lasting change can take hold in our land until all people truly believe that Life is sacred and must be protected. Education is the first step on our long journey to restoring the sanctity of innocent human life. [Learn more about Texas Right to Life.](#)

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