



South Central Nebraska RIGHT to LIFE

NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2023

WEBSITE >>>



Mailing Address: PO Box 391, Hastings, NE 68902

Website: www.SCNRTL.org || Email: info@SCNRTL.org

Facebook / Instagram / YouTube: search for "South Central Nebraska Right To Life"

LB626 Nebraska Heartbeat Act is in Jeopardy

In an unexpected turn of events this week, Senator Merv Riepe of District 12, a co-sponsor of LB626, the Nebraska Heartbeat Act, filed an amendment that would allow abortions up to 12 weeks of gestation and allow abortion of babies who are diagnosed with a fetal anomaly.

The Nebraska Heartbeat Act could stop 85% of abortions in our state and save 2,000 lives every year! In comparison, Sen. Riepe's amendment would only protect the lives of around 300 babies per year, as that number of abortions are performed in Nebraska after 12 weeks.

The Nebraska Heartbeat Act would require an ultrasound be performed before an abortion to listen for a baby's heartbeat. If a heartbeat is detected, an abortion may not be performed. The Act allows exceptions for rape, incest, or in the event of a medical emergency.

Until Wednesday, March 15th, 2023, we had exactly the 33 votes needed to pass LB 626, the life-saving Nebraska Heartbeat Act. Senator Joni Albrecht, sponsor of the bill, expressed surprise and disappointment by Senator Riepe's amendment, saying the loss of his vote for cloture could put LB 626 at risk of falling to a filibuster from abortion rights advocates.

Senator Riepe, a former hospital executive, completed the 2022 Nebraska Right to Life Voter Guide stating he *is in favor of protecting preborn babies from conception, with no exceptions*. He also is on the Health and Human Services Committee and voted to advance LB626 from committee to the full Legislature after sitting through *7 full hours of testimony for and against LB626*. He has not confirmed that he would vote for LB626 if his amendment fails.

Please write or call Senator Riepe to respectfully share your concerns and ask him to withdraw the amendment and fully support LB626.

E-mail: mriepe@leg.ne.gov

Office phone number: 402-471-2623

Dear Senator Riepe,

My name is [INSERT NAME], and I live in [INSERT CITY]. I am writing to urge you to support LB 626, withdraw your amendment to LB 626, and vote in support of the bill as written.

- LB 626, as introduced, will put an end to 85% of abortions in Nebraska. Your amendment would strip away heartbeat protections for 1,700 preborn babies every year.
- We must protect preborn children with their own beating hearts. Every innocent human life deserves protection, especially preborn babies with a detectable heartbeat. A heartbeat is a universal sign of life.
- LB 626, as written, already has support from a large majority of the Nebraska Legislature and Governor Pillen.
- Your amendment could jeopardize this year's pro-life bill altogether. This would leave Nebraska's current 20-week abortion law in place for at least another year and make Nebraska a "destination state" for out-of-state women seeking a late-term abortion.
- Nebraska is a pro-life state. A recent statewide poll revealed that 58% of Nebraskans support a bill protecting preborn babies once a heartbeat is detected.
- There is no question, scientifically or medically, that an unborn child in the womb is a distinct, individual human being with their own DNA and their own heartbeat.

Please support LB 626 and withdraw your amendment. Thank you for your time and consideration.

**AMENDMENT
COULD SINK
HEARTBEAT
LEGISLATION**

ACT NOW



Source: Emails from Nebraska Right to Life + Nebraska Family Alliance

Eighteenth Anniversary of Terri Schiavo's Death: March 31, 2023

When Terri Schiavo collapsed with a cardiac arrest in 1990, she could have had no idea that 33 years later people all over the world would know her name and care very much about the manner in which she died. What began as a private family tragedy ultimately exploded into an international cultural conflagration and what was perhaps the most important legal case involving American bioethics since Roe v Wade. When it was over, Terri was dead, society was bitterly divided, and our culture changed fundamentally.

During the Terri Schiavo trial, bioethicists and others claimed that Terri's death would be gentle. These advocates either intentionally or ignorantly conflated two different circumstances.

1. The first, taking food and water from someone whose body readily assimilated sustenance. That is an agonizing death.

2. The second, people dying naturally whose bodies are shutting down. In such circumstances, people stop eating and drinking on their own as part of the process of passing on. That does not cause suffering, and indeed, it is medically inappropriate – and can be cruel – to force sustenance into their bodies.

Terri was a number 1, and the advocates pretended she was a number 2.

Terri's brother, Bobby Schindler, frankly discussed the terrible circumstances of his sister's slow death by dehydration:

These are the hard facts my family and I will have to live with for the rest of my life. After almost two weeks without food or water, my sister's lips were horribly cracked, to the point where they were blistering. Her skin became jaundiced with areas that turned different shades of blue.

Her skin became markedly dehydrated from the lack of water. Terri's breathing became rapid and uncontrollable, as if she was outside sprinting.

Her moaning, at times, was raucous, which indicated to us the insufferable pain she was experiencing. Terri's face became skeletal, with blood pooling in her deeply sunken eyes and her teeth protruding forward.

Even as I write this, I can never properly describe the nightmare of having to watch my sister have to die this way. What will be forever seared in my memory is the look of utter horror on my sister's face when my family visited her just after she died.

It was not long ago that even the thought of deliberately starving and dehydrating brain injured people to death by the denial of food and water would be unconscionable and considered a criminal act.

Here in the U.S., there are 10 states and Washington, DC that have doctor assisted suicide laws after Oregon became the first state to legalize it in 1994. However, what often gets overlooked is that assisted suicide is only one of the arsenals in the culture-of-death toolchest that is used to end the lives of those who are medically vulnerable – either physically or mentally.

If you have been paying attention to this issue and the expanding number of changes in the laws and the policies in healthcare, then you are quite familiar with how susceptible patients are to being denied their autonomy, resulting in their medical care being withdrawn.

The administration of food and water via feeding tubes used to be recognized as ordinary care. Today, it has been redefined as medical treatment and now it is legal in all 50 states to have this most basic right either denied or withdrawn.

There are basic but critically important ways you and your family can protect yourselves. A good start is to make certain you have a trusted pro-life doctor who recognizes our God given human dignity and acts accordingly towards you and your family. Perhaps more importantly, however, is appointing a health care agent in a healthcare durable power of attorney.

It has become clear that medical decisions have shifted from patients and family members to outsiders – effectively strangers – when patients have not legally appointed a health care agent prior to a medical crisis.

In this intensifying secularized world, the respect for the sacredness of life, traditional family values, and common decency are collapsing, and it is now our responsibility to safeguard ourselves and defend our loved ones. There may be a situation where you will have to confront this medical apparatus and literally fight for your life, your children's lives, or another family member's life.

Perhaps the best way to end these remarks is to quote from pro-life President George W. Bush who worked hard on behalf of the Schindler family: "The essence of civilization," he said, "is that the strong have a duty to protect the weak."



Terri Schiavo in 2003

Sources: <https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2022/04/lynn-vincent-on-lawless-the-truth-about-the-terri-schiavo-case-and-why-terri-still-matters/> +
<https://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2015/03/the-cruelty-of-terri-schiavos-death/>

Role of the Pro-Life Movement after Roe v. Wade has been Overturned:



Pro-Life Legislative Day – Monday, March 13th: Larry & Connie Consbruck from SCNRTL discuss upcoming pro-life legislation with Senator Steve Halloran of Hastings.

Our work in the Pro-Life movement is not over! We must continue to be active and visible!

- **State & Federal Level** – legislate for complete legal protection for children in the womb within each state; create Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn
- **Be Pro-Active** – refer women to pro-life pregnancy centers, minister & pray outside abortion facilities, financially support pregnancy centers
- **Digital Activism** – share pro-life information on your social media
- **Change the Mindset of the Culture** – 86% of women who have abortions are unmarried; 60% already have one child (NY Times article). Today's culture is about hooking up, not about love and commitment.

Science continues to show us the amazing progress of fetal development:

- By **21 days**, a baby's heart begins to beat and the brain, spinal cord, and nervous system are formed.
- By **8 weeks**, she has every organ present.
- At **10 weeks**, fingernails begin to develop and
- By **12 weeks** she can swallow, make facial expressions, and even smile.
- **85% of abortions in Nebraska are performed within these first 12 weeks!**

With chemical / medication abortions, life-threatening pregnancy complications may go undetected.

- You need to verify there is a heartbeat (miscarriage)
- You need an ultrasound to date the pregnancy
Before 10 weeks: chemical abortions are done
After 10 weeks: surgical abortions are done
- You need an ultrasound to verify the location of the pregnancy (ectopic)

In 2011, Nebraska enacted a Ban on Webcam Abortions, which states that every abortion, whether chemical or surgical, must be done by a licensed physician physically present in the same room as the pregnant woman. This prevents chemical abortion drugs from being sold at Walgreens / CVS / RiteAid in Nebraska, even though it is legal according to the FDA. Unfortunately, we are not always going to know if the drugs are coming into our state under the radar. **Chemical Abortions account for 54% of all the abortions in the U.S.** according to the Guttmacher Institute.

The Final Judgement: Did You Try?

"I am not the least embarrassed to say that I believe one day each of us will be called upon to render an account for what we have done, and maybe more importantly, what we fail to do in our lifetime, and while I believe in a merciful God, I believe in a just God, and I would be terrified at the thought of having to explain at the final judgment why I stood unmoved while Herod's slaughter of the innocents was being reenacted here in my own country.

When the time comes as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, I've often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, that it is a terrible moment of loneliness. You have no advocates, you are there alone standing before God – and a terror will rip through your soul like nothing you can imagine. But I really think that those in the pro-life movement will not be alone. I think there will be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world – and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement. They will say to God, 'Spare him because he loved us,' – and God will look at you and say not, 'Did you succeed?' but 'Did you try?'"

~ Congressman Henry Hyde

"Anyone looking at this photo can easily tell this IS a baby...This is what any baby would resemble at only 10 weeks. 10 fingers, 10 toes, eyes, ears, and nose."

LIVE ACTION

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™
life is precious -defend it

As we reach the midpoint of this spring's 40 Days for Life campaign, **156 babies** have been spared from abortion thanks to YOUR prayers!





Stay tuned for news about a **FREE Showing** of the movie **LIFEMARK** at the Hastings Museum Theatre! We are working on securing dates and times.

LIFEMARK tells the story of David, a senior in high school who just turned 18. David was adopted as a newborn and had always known he was adopted but knew nothing about his birth parents. He has an important speech coming up about something that's impacted his life. Throughout his life, David has kept it secret that he was adopted, but his teacher suggests that would be a good topic if he's willing to talk about it.

David goes home to find that his birth mother has reached out to him and is interested in meeting him. David wrestles with the idea of meeting his birth mom, but his best friend, Nate, thinks it is a great idea and thinks they should document their meeting.

Deciding to meet his birth mother, David now has heard from his biological father and must decide if he would like to meet him as well. Will David meet his biological mother and father? Will he be able to be open with them and listen to what they have to say about their decision to place him for adoption.

Have you seen our new billboard? It is visible on South Burlington Ave, as you are driving south, and is located across from Scott Spady Motors and above Family Dollar / South Burlington Plaza. With the Chemical Abortion pill becoming more prevalent, we wanted to let women know that they still have a choice, even though they may have taken the pill. From the moment a woman takes the abortion pill, she has about 72 hours to change her mind and save her baby.

24 / 7 Hotline Phone: 1-877-558-0333



Save your treasures for our RIGHT TO LIFE Garage Sale Fundraiser, happening this June!

We are finalizing dates & location, so stay tuned to our Website / Facebook / Instagram / Email Blasts for more information!

If you would like to volunteer to work the sale (you get first chance to purchase donated treasures!) or simply want to shop, email us at: info@SCNRTL.org so we can add you to our Volunteer List and/or Mailing List to send you updates on Sale dates and times.

We appreciate your PRE-PRICED donations and are grateful for your support!

SCNRTL BOARD MEMBERS:

President – Amanda Frasier
Vice-President – Marge Koepp
Secretary – Jacinta Schultz
Treasurer – Larry Consbruck
President Emeritus – Connie Consbruck

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- **July 8** – Juniata Days Parade, Juniata – *Walk with our float!*
- **July 15** – Fairfest Parade, Hastings – *Walk with our float!*
- **July 18 - 23** – Adams County Fair, Hastings – Fair workers are needed!
- **August 19** – Kool-Aid Days Parade, Hastings – *Walk with our float! Line up 9:30, Parade at 10*