



Michigan Celebrates the Passage of the Abortion Insurance Opt-Out Act

Michigan has won an important pro-life victory.

It started last summer, when over 315,000 registered voters, representing every county in Michigan, signed the NO Taxes for Abortion Insurance Petition, making it clear that the people of Michigan do not believe that abortion is health care and we do not want to pay for it.

On December 11, both the Michigan House and Senate passed this petition as the Abortion Insurance Opt-Out Act. According to this act, elective abortion will no longer be a standard benefit in health plans. Abortion coverage will be available only by purchasing a separate rider. This act also ensures that our tax dollars and insurance premiums will not go toward funding abortions.

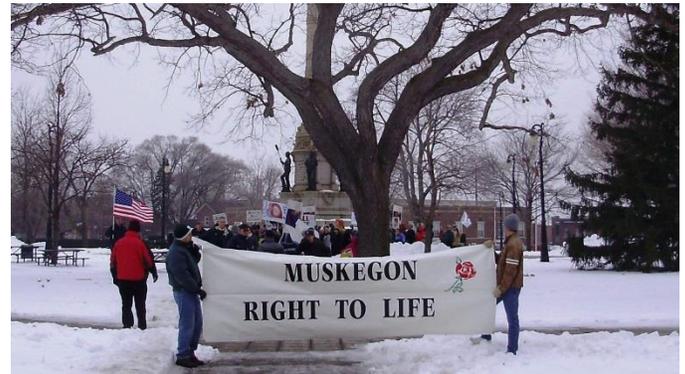
Because the Abortion Insurance Opt-Out Act was initiated by citizens, as allowed by the Michigan Constitution, it does not require the governor's signature to become law. Governor Rick Snyder refused to sign this legislation last year because the bill did not contain a rape exception, and he felt that it intruded on the private insurance market. Believing that a child's life is precious regardless of the circumstances in which he or she was conceived, Michigan pro-lifers began collecting signatures and gathered over 315,000 signatures in just 120 days.

The Affordable Care Act, which requires all the states to have health care exchanges (also called marketplaces) available by 2014, allows states to exclude abortion as a covered benefit in these insurance exchanges through legislation like the Abortion Insurance Opt-Out Act. Michigan is the 24th state to exclude abortion coverage from its insurance plans through this provision.

The Abortion Insurance Opt-Out act will go into effect in March 2014.

This law not only protects the lives of unborn children, by making abortion less accessible in some cases, it also protects the consciences of Michigan's pro-life people.

Thank you to everyone who gathered signatures and everyone who signed the NO Taxes for Abortion Insurance Petition.



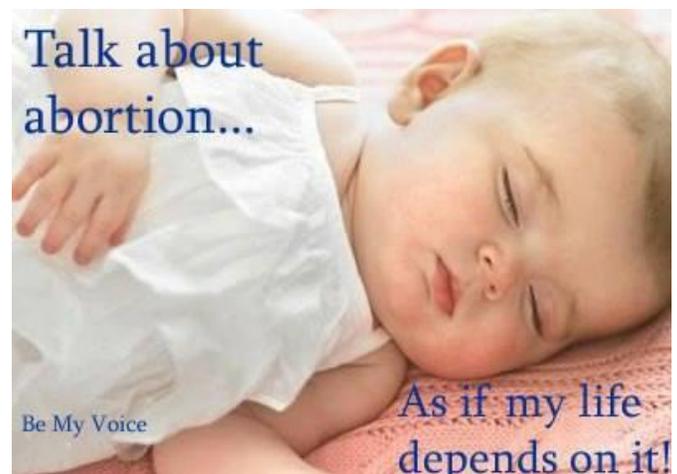
March and Memorial for Life

DATE: Saturday, January 18, 2014
 MARCH: 1:00 p.m. at Hackley Park
 MEMORIAL: 2:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church

The **March** to St. Mary's Catholic Church will begin at Hackley Park, downtown Muskegon, at 1:00 p.m. Feel free to bring compassionate prolife signs for the **March**.

Warm refreshments will be served at St. Mary's. Prolife merchandise will be available for you to browse. It's a great time to renew your annual membership with Muskegon County Right to Life.

The **Memorial for Life** will follow at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Church, 239 W. Clay Avenue, Muskegon. A freewill donation will be taken at the **Memorial**. Please come to show your support for the peaceful protection of the unborn.





”President’s Place”

Being prolife doesn’t
END at birth....
...nor does it
BEGIN there!

NO Taxes for Abortion Insurance! Thank you to all the churches and individuals who assisted with the petition drive. It’s because of your efforts that Michigan was successful in enacting the special provision allowing states to exclude abortion as a covered benefit in the federal Affordable Care Act/”ObamaCare”.

Pro-abortion people are not happy with the Opt Out Law in Michigan. It’s being referred to as ”rape insurance”. State Senate Leader Gretchen Whitmer has said ”Requiring Michigan women to plan ahead for an unplanned pregnancy is not only illogical, it’s one of the most misogynistic proposals I have ever seen the Michigan Legislature.”

Sadly, we’ve seen abortion ‘evolve’ from an option for a crisis pregnancy to save the life of the mother, to birth control for an unplanned or unwanted pregnancy. It is referred to as ”Reproductive Health Care” and ”Reproductive Freedom”. Senator Whitmer’s statement infers that if you don’t support a woman’s choice for abortion on demand, AND are not willing to pay for it, you hate women.

Abortion remains a legal ‘right’ in our county. The Opt Out Law in Michigan is about WHO PAYS FOR ABORTION. Michigan Citizens do not want to pay for someone’s abortion with their tax dollars or health insurance premiums. Abortion is not health care. Abortion kills a living, developing human being.

The media continues to regurgitate the pro-abortion lies about the legislation. Our prolife legislators have taken a beating. They need to hear from MANY prolife citizens. Please call or e-mail your legislator with a big THANK YOU for their strong prolife stand to protect life!

Our support for life is really tested in the occasion of a pregnancy that is the result of a rape. It’s natural to think of the woman who has experienced this tragedy, and want to take care of her.

It’s hard to even think about the baby at the time of a rape. But as prolife people, we have to recognize that this baby, conceived in rape, is an innocent victim.

Does this baby deserve the death penalty because of the sins of his or her father? Using abortion to end a crisis pregnancy does nothing to alleviate the rape. It merely allows society to forget about the rape and pretend that justice has been done, leaving the woman to deal with the emotions of the assault and abortion, often alone.

As prolife people, we believe that every child’s life is precious regardless of the circumstances in which he or she was conceived.

According to the most recent statistics, more than 56 million abortions have been performed in the United States since 1973. Please join us as we remember those lives lost or forever changed at our ”March and Memorial for Life” on Saturday, January 18th. See details on page 1.

Happy New Year! Thank you for your support for life. Please consider renewing your membership with Muskegon County Right to Life. Your membership supports our life saving educational and prolife legislation efforts. A membership form can be found on page 4.

God bless you for all you do to protect life!

Pat Vendal

President, Muskegon County Right to Life

”2014 Signature Ad Campaign”



Please join us in taking a stand for life on the 41st anniversary of Roe v Wade. Our *Signature Ad Campaign* consists of collecting names of prolife individuals and donations.

Your donations will help fund 5 billboards (pictured above) posted in January throughout Muskegon County. The eye catching artwork was provided by Sophie Balcom, 14 year old daughter of Tim and Pamela Balcom . The billboards will be up for a minimum of 4 weeks.

Names collected will express support for the legal protection of unborn children on the Muskegon Right to Life web site: www.muskegonrtl.org

Your name and donation will help change the hearts and minds of Muskegon County residents. Many area churches are gathering names and donations, or you can mail your name and donation to our office noted ”*Signature Ad Campaign*”.



In Loving Memory of...

Ida Ellen "Idella" Bozik

By Axel and Retha Johnson,
Bernie White, Jolene Ames,
Bruce and Janine Ferenz,
David and Margaret Snider,
Dee Bennette, Jackie Houseman,
Pat Bray, Mary Johnson,
Judy and David Kendrick,
Larry and Mary Hoogerhyde,
LuAnn Dana, Steve Douglas,
Nancy and Jerry Harriman,
Paul and Helen Miller,
Rich and Barb Werner,
Vern and Edna Mogck

Stella Dabrowski

By Bob and Jeanne LaCross

Dick Kuhn

By Johanna Kuhn

Sid Miller

By Rita Ann Miller,
Marguerite Fitzsimmons,
Earl and Jean Shafer

Steven Peterson, Jr.

By Donald and Marcia Kendra

In Honor of...

***Stan Gawron's birthday
Frank Gawron's speedy recovery***

By Mary Lund

Donations:

- *Jeff and Lucy Beasley
- Paul & Joyce Crum
- First Christian Reformed Church
- Janet Grevious
- *Johanna Kuhn
- Kirk & Amy Schultz
- *Thomas and Loretta Sieffert

*Denotes monthly contribution



"In Loving Memory, or In Honor of..."

Please consider *Muskegon Right to Life* as a memorial at the time of passing of a loved one. Memorial envelopes are available at local funeral homes.

Perhaps you'd like to honor a loved one by remembering a birthday, or the birth of a child or a grandchild.

An acknowledgment will be sent to the family or person you designate, while the amount of your gift will remain confidential.

See form on page 4 of this newsletter for your use. Your donations support the life saving efforts of *Muskegon Right to Life*.

Donations made to *Muskegon County Right to Life* are not tax deductible.

***Thank you for your generous support of
Muskegon County Right to Life.***

"2013 VOICE FOR LIFE AWARD"



The "2013 Voice for Life Award" was presented at our annual *Focus on Life Benefit Dinner* on October 28, 2013 at the Holiday Inn Muskegon Harbor. We celebrated the December 26, 2012, closing of the Muskegon abortion clinic, Women's Medical Services.

The "2013 Voice for Life Award" was presented to the many faithful people who prayed for years outside of the abortion clinic, and to those who prayed outside the abortion clinic during the *40 Days for Life* campaign in the fall of 2012.

The Dinner was a one of thanksgiving! We are thankful for all the volunteers that helped gather signatures for our successful "NO Taxes for Abortion Insurance" petition drive!

We are thankful for the unprecedented number of abortion businesses that have shut their doors. At one time, there were 72 abortion clinics in Michigan, now there are less than 30!

Return Service Requested

**2014 "March and Memorial for Life"
Information Enclosed**

Muskegon County 

2014 MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Yes! I want to help save lives.
Please enroll me as a member of**

Muskegon County Right to Life and Right to Life of Michigan.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
E-mail: _____

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$5 Senior or Student	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Family	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Bronze	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Silver	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Gold	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Platinum	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ Other	

As a member, you will receive the Muskegon County and the Michigan *Right to Life* newsletters, and you are invited to use the educational materials at the Muskegon County Right to Life office.

Please make your checks payable to:

Muskegon County Right to Life
427 Seminole Rd., Suite 202
Norton Shores, MI 49444

Muskegon County 

**In Loving Memory
or In Honor of...**

ENCLOSED IN MY GIFT OF:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25
<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

DONATION MADE IN MEMORY OF:

DONATION MADE IN HONOR OF:

<input type="checkbox"/> Birthday	<input type="checkbox"/> New Arrival
<input type="checkbox"/> Mother's Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Father's Day
<input type="checkbox"/> Speedy Recovery	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

Please notify: _____
Address: _____

Our name is: _____
Address: _____

Please make your checks payable to:

Muskegon County Right to Life
427 Seminole Rd., Suite 202
Norton Shores, MI 49444