

RNC *For Life* REPORT

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Obama Sends Avalanche Of Anti-Life Actions

Actions by President Barack Obama and his administration have been entirely predictable given his total commitment and that of his wife, Michelle, to the anti-life agenda of the abortion lobby. He began by eliminating the Mexico City policy that prohibits taxpayer funding of agencies that promote or perform abortions overseas. He is in the process of rescinding the Leavitt/Bush regulation enforcing protection of the rights of conscience of health care providers and institutions. He has removed the Bush prohibition on the use of federal taxpayer funds for research that involves the killing of human beings at the embryonic stage of development. And, he has nominated the most pro-abortion governor in the country, Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas, to be the new Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The Department of Health and Human Services has published the following announcement in the Federal Register: "Rescission of the Regulation entitled 'Ensuring That Department of Health and Human Services Funds Do Not Support Coercive or Discriminatory Policies or Practices in Violation of Federal Law.'" To view links online, go to the RNC/Life website and click on *Reports* to read the *Federal*

Register announcement. You can click on either the PDF or HTML version.

A period of time for citizens to submit comments in support of or in opposition to Obama's intention to do away with conscience protections ended on April 9, 2009. As we go to press, there has been no announcement on whether or not the administration intends to proceed. However, given the unflinching and dedicated support for legal abortion found among President Obama, his administration

and most Democrats in Congress, we do not expect that going forward, health care personnel will be allowed to exercise their rights of conscience free of discrimination, and/or outright job loss.

The Leavitt/Bush regulation required any entity, including individuals, receiving federal funds through HHS to

certify their compliance with federal laws protecting health care providers and personnel from discrimination because of their refusal to participate in or abet in any way the performance of abortion or any other medical actions they find morally or religiously objectionable.

Several federal laws protect the rights of conscience of health care providers. The Church



Anti-Life Actions *continued on next page*

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Amendments and the Hyde/Weldon Amendment to the Labor/HHS annual appropriations bill are described in the *Federal Register*. It is unclear how those laws will function once the enforcement mechanism is abolished. □

Obama Removes Restrictions On Killing Embryos For Research

President George W. Bush established an Executive Order forbidding the use of federal funds for research involving the killing of human beings in the embryonic stage of development, with the exception of stem cell lines derived from embryos killed prior to August 9, 2001.

Barack Obama repealed Bush's order on March 9, 2009. The National Catholic Bioethics Center issued a brief but excellent statement regarding this issue. (To view this issue online, go to the RNC/Life website and click on *Reports*.) The statement says, in part, "*The national Catholic Bioethics Center supports stem cell research which respects innate human dignity. However, this new Obama policy constitutes a misuse of public money for immoral research that has not yielded one single clinical benefit. [The research has been ongoing through the use of private money.] In fact embryonic stem cell therapy is known to cause tumors and tissue rejection.*"

Fr. Thomas Berg, executive director of New York's Westchester Institute for Ethics & the Human Person and member of the ethics committee of the Empire State Stem Cell Board pointed out in a March 9, 2009 statement that, ". . . *in the midst of this current economic crisis it's a travesty to waste money on an immoral scientific endeavor that is already outpaced by scientifically superior, and ethically unproblematic advances.*"

Gary Bauer, pointing to the incredible advances in treatments, therapies and cures using non-embryonic stem cells derived from numerous sources including umbilical cord blood and the patient's own body, commented in his *End of the Day Report* on March 9, 2009, "*If the pharmaceutical indus-*

try thought embryonic stem cells were the key to massive profits, it would be heavily invested in this research. But it isn't, and that speaks volumes about its efficacy."

It also speaks volumes about the Obama administration's grab for more and more of our hard-earned tax dollars for unnecessary and immoral activities. □

Popular Physician Declares Stem Cell Debate "Dead" On Oprah Show

Oprah Winfrey and Michael J. Fox listened in stunned silence on April 2, 2009 when the popular Dr. Mehmet Oz appeared on her program to explain that the cure for Parkinsonism, the disease that afflicts Mr. Fox, lies in his own skin cells rather than cells derived from human embryos. Millions in Oprah's listening audience heard Dr. Oz tell Mr. Fox that embryonic stem cells are not the answer to treating or curing his or any other disease. He said the embryonic cells multiply so rapidly they are impossible to control, and if injected into a patient such as Mr. Fox, may cause cancerous tumors to form. Instead, he described how Fox's own skin cells could be reprogrammed back to an embryo-like state in a process called induced pluripotent stem cell research (iPS), and then used to treat his condition. He predicted that cures would be possible in less than ten years. □

The video of Dr. Oz's remarkable appearance can be found here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDFJOzu9SyM>

The Vatican Blocks Caroline Kennedy's Appointment As U.S. Ambassador

Vatican sources told *Il Giornale* that their support for abortion disqualified Ms. Kennedy [Schlossberg] and other Roman Catholics President Barack

Vatican Blocks Kennedy *continued on next page*

Obama had been seeking to appoint. Mr. Obama was reportedly seeking to reward John F. Kennedy's daughter, who publicly gave her support to his election bid. The Italian paper said that the Vatican strongly disapproved of Mr. Obama's support for abortion and embryonic stem cell research. The impasse over the ambassadorial appointment threatens to cloud his meeting with the Pope during a G8 summit in Italy in July.

Ms. Kennedy [Schlossberg], 53, has said that she supports abortion. Raymond Flynn, a former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican [and a Democrat] said earlier this week that she would be a poor choice. "It's imperative, it's essential that the person who represents us to the Holy See be a person who has pro-life values. I hope the President doesn't make that mistake," he told the *Boston Herald*. "She said she was pro-choice. I don't assume she's going to change that, which is problematic." (*Telegraph.co.uk*, 4/11/09) □

Obama Names Abortion Supporter to Head HHS

"She Won't Be in Kansas Any More"

That was the answer given by pro-life U.S. Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS) when confronted by pro-life leaders who were stunned and outraged by his announced support for the nomination of Kathleen Sebelius as Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The best commentary on the situation comes from *WorldNetDaily* columnist Jill Stanek. (To view this column on line go to the RNC/Life website and click on *Reports*.)

Gov. Kathleen Sebelius is closely linked with the notorious late-term and partial-birth abortion practitioner George Tiller. There is absolutely no possible way a pro-life elected official should support her nomination.

Senator Brownback has announced that he will not seek reelection. It is well known that he intends to run for Governor of Kansas after he leaves the Senate. Perhaps he feels that the Sebelius endorsement is necessary in order to secure votes from the

mushy middle. The case of former U.S. Senator Rick Santorum may be instructive here. Senator Santorum, like Senator Brownback, built a reputation during his term as a strong advocate for the cause of life. But, his support and active campaigning for the reelection of rabid pro-abortion Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA) and the best friend of Planned Parenthood in the House, Rep. Jim Greenwood (R-PA) left his pro-life base in shock and dismay. When time came for Senator Santorum's reelection campaign, the pro-life voters who brought him to the dance were looking for a different partner — which is one reason why Rick Santorum is a former United States Senator. □

Pro-Abortion Nominess Abound In Obamaland

Here are just a few of those chosen to populate the Obama administration recently published by *LifeNews.com*:

- **Rahm Emanuel**, White House Chief of Staff. He has a 0% voting record according to National Right to Life Committee.
- Former National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL) legal director **Dawn Johnson** is the new Assistant Attorney General for the Office of the Legal Counsel in the Obama administration.
- **Ellen Moran**, the former director of the pro-abortion group Emily's List is Obama's White House Communications Director. Emily's List is a pro-abortion political action committee (PAC) that supports only pro-abortion female Democrat candidates who oppose any legal restrictions on abortion.
- Heading President Obama's White House Domestic Policy Council is former Emily's List board member **Melody Barnes**.
- **Hillary Clinton**, whose pro-abortion views are well known, believes abortion should be an international right. She is the new Secretary of State.

Pro-Abortion Nominees *continued on next page*

- Planned Parenthood is “excited” about Obama’s appointment of former Clinton administration official **Jeanne Lambrew** as deputy director of the White House Office of Health Care Reform.
- The third highest attorney in the Justice Department is **Thomas Perrelli**, the lawyer who represented Michael Schiavo in his efforts to kill his disabled wife, Terri.
- **James B. Steinberg**, President Obama’s nominee for Deputy Secretary of State, told members of the Senate that taxpayers should be forced to pay for abortions.
- **Tina Tchen**, an abortion advocate, is director of the new agency known as the White House Council for Women and Girls.
- President Obama’s first judicial appointment is pro-abortion federal judge **David Hamilton** to serve on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.

GOP Should Mount Primary Challengers To Senate RINOs

Three Senate Republicans vote with the liberal Democrats, denying the Minority Party the necessary votes to stop liberal, pro-abortion, socialistic legislation from passing. The RINO (Republican In Name Only) Senators are Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins, both from Maine, and Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania.

Their voting records are proof enough that they do not deserve to carry the banner of the Republican Party. We join with those who want to see the Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Michael Steele, and the Committee as a whole, finally take a stand and agree to recruit and field primary challengers to Snowe, Collins and Specter. They are helping the Democrats do what may turn out to be irreparable damage to our country! ☐



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