

# RNC *For Life* REPORT

A Publication of the Republican National Coalition for Life

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## Farewell, Colleen! Hello, Dianne!

### Longtime GOP Activist Named To Head Republican National Coalition for Life

Dianne Edmondson of Corinth in Denton County, Texas has been named Executive Director of the Republican National Coalition for Life by Phyllis Schlafly, the group's founder and National Chairman. Dianne succeeds Colleen Parro who has retired.

Mrs. Schlafly said, "We are proud that the Republican National Platform has been pro-life ever since *Roe v. Wade*. Under Dianne Edmondson's leadership, I know we will continue to be successful."

Dianne, a native Texan, has been active in the pro-family movement since the early 1970s, heading STOP ERA movements in Minnesota, Texas and Oklahoma. Her taped speech about the dangers of the misnamed Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution was widely circulated throughout the country, and she also carried the message personally to dozens of states. For those efforts, Mrs. Edmondson was awarded an Eagle award in two different years by Mrs. Schlafly at Eagle Forum's annual Eagle Council conference.

A long-time political activist, Mrs. Edmondson is currently the longest-serving Chairman of the Denton



Dianne



Colleen

County (Texas) Republican Party. Under her leadership, it has become recognized as one of the country's most reliably Republican counties, whose net Republican vote offsets up to ten Democrat stronghold counties in state-wide Texas elections. She has participated in dozens of Republican campaigns for county, state and national candidates.

Active within the GOP since the mid-1960s, she has served as a National Republican Convention Delegate and a delegate to a dozen Texas State Conventions, as well as Precinct Chair and many offices in various Republican clubs. She has also served in many community organizations.

"It is such an honor to be selected as the Director of this strong, effective pro-life organization," Dianne said. "As a conservative Republican, I have long been aware that the life issue is THE defining difference between the GOP and the Democrats and I am totally dedicated to maintaining the Platform plank which delineates that difference."

Dianne is married, the mother of three and grandmother of five. Her professional careers included newspaper reporting and editing, and running her successful IT recruiting/staffing firm for nearly 20 years prior to becoming a full-time Republican grassroots activist. □

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Please visit our web site at <http://www.rncliforg>



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## A Note from Dianne

How very humbling and yet exciting it is to be named by Phyllis as the Executive Director of the Republican National Coalition for Life! For some time, I have felt that I wanted to do even more for the pro-life cause, and God answered my prayers with this fantastic opportunity!

Though following in Colleen's footsteps will be a challenging journey, I pledge to do my utmost to continue the mission of the RNC for Life: ensuring that the Republican Platform continues to include the strong pro-life statement which has been in its national platform since 1984, "The unborn child has a fundamental individual right to life which cannot be infringed."

Additional language has been added to our Platform which calls for a ban on human embryonic stem cell research, opposition to federal funding for drugs that destroy human life (RU-486 and Plan B), and restoring the DEA ban on the use of controlled substances for physician-assisted suicide, making our Platform even more pro-life than when RNC for Life first began its mission some 20 years ago.

Since there is no national GOP convention this year to consider our Platform, RNC for Life's primary mission for 2010 will be the election of strong pro-life Republicans to help us promote a culture of life in America as they also band together to wrest control from the leftists who now run Washington, D.C.

*Dianne E.*

## Pro-Life Gov. Rick Perry Wins in Texas Primary

Texas Gov. Rick Perry, the longest serving governor in the state's history, won a decisive victory over challenger Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison in the March 2 Primary, which was billed as "the battle between two political giants." Many political observers attributed Hutchison's loss in large part to her ambiguous stand on abortion while Perry is viewed as one the nation's strongest pro-

life governors. A third candidate, Debra Medina, was closely aligned with tea party activists and her candidacy appeared to take votes from Hutchison rather than Perry. Texas law requires a runoff in a multiple-candidate race if no one receives a majority of the votes cast, and normally a three-person race would require such a runoff. However, Perry was able to secure the GOP nomination with 53% of the vote to Hutchison's 31% and Medina's 16%. Perry faces a Democrat challenger in the November election. □

## Fully Informed Consent Bills Advance in OK, FL, MO

Recent legislative advances for the pro-life cause have taken place in several states, including Oklahoma, Florida and Missouri, where bills have been passed requiring an ultrasound to be offered or performed on any woman seeking an abortion so that she will have full knowledge of the unborn baby before seeking to end its life.

The Oklahoma law was vetoed by its Democrat governor, but its Republican-dominated legislature courageously overrode his veto. In Florida, Gov. Charlie Crist is sending signals that he will NOT sign the bill, which also includes a provision to opt Florida taxpayers out of paying for abortions under Obamacare. (Gov. Crist, who had announced his plan to run for U.S. Senate in the Republican Primary, was trailing badly in the polls and so has decided to make the run as an Independent, while refusing to return any money to his early GOP supporters!) On the last day of session, the Missouri House voted to send informed consent legislation to the governor. Missouri Right to Life had worked on this legislation for several years before finally getting it passed.

Several states also are considering legislation to opt out of the Obamacare abortion funding requirement. Tennessee and Arizona have passed it already, and Mississippi's legislation awaits its governor's signature. □

## ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ Primary Election Calendar ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Nearly half our states have their Primary Elections between July and October. Please contact the Republican candidates in your state and support those who are pro-life. We are attempting to survey all GOP Congressional candidates using our questionnaire, which you can download from our website for yourself or to give to candidates. When we have received questionnaires, we will determine if an endorsement or even financial help is warranted through our PAC. Be sure to pay attention also to the runoffs, as fewer people normally vote in those races. Here are the remaining primaries:

### **JULY:**

13 – Alabama (run-off)  
20 – Georgia  
27 – Oklahoma

### **AUGUST:**

3 – Kansas, Michigan, Missouri  
5 – Tennessee  
10 – Colorado, Connecticut, Minnesota, Georgia (run-off)  
17 – Washington, Wyoming  
24 – Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Oklahoma (run-off)  
28 – Louisiana

### **SEPTEMBER:**

14 – Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin  
18 – Hawaii

**OCTOBER:** 2 – Louisiana (run-off)

## Identifying and Helping Pro-Life Candidates

The RNC for Life Political Action Committee assists solid pro-life candidates in their campaigns for the U.S. Congress. Frankly, that support has never been more important than in this crucial election year, for Republicans have a real chance to re-take the U.S. Congress, and then, hopefully, repeal Obamacare and its abortion provisions. But we must take great care, as Republicans, to select as our nominee candidates who truly reflect Republican values, who truly are pro-life and not just calling themselves “conservative” in order to win our votes. Our candidate questionnaires will help YOU know who to support in contested primaries. Though many states have completed their primary elections, nearly half of the states’ primaries are yet to come. (See Primary Election Calendar above.) Please encourage your Congressional and legislative candidates to complete our questionnaire so that we may be able to assist those who will stalwartly promote our pro-life cause. The questionnaire may be obtained from our website: [www.rnc/life.org](http://www.rnc/life.org). □

## Taxpayers To Pay for Eggs Used in Embryonic Stem Cell Research in New York

One of Barack Obama’s first and most offensive acts as President was to repeal President Bush’s prohibition on embryonic stem cell research (ESCR) which involves killing human embryos for use in medical research.

This revocation has triggered a demand for women to donate their eggs to be fertilized and then used for the experimentation, and New York State has decided to offer women up to \$10,000 to donate their eggs for stem cell research. Taxpayers, of course, will foot the bill. The donor eggs are extracted through a complicated, painful process, and when those eggs are then sold for the purpose of medical experimentation, women and their eggs become, essentially, a commodity on the open market.

And what if there are complications from such an extraction? Would the NY taxpayers find themselves on the hook for millions of dollars in medical costs, legal fees and financial settlements? □

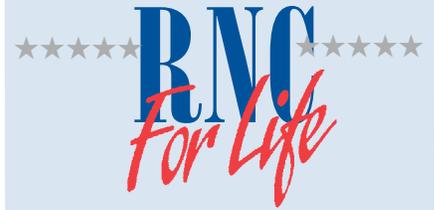
## Obama's Supreme Court Pick a Pro-Abortion Liberal

Solicitor General Elena Kagan, an ardent abortion supporter, is President Obama's pick to replace retiring Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stephens. Kagan, 50, would likely serve for decades on the high court. Senate Republicans are already promising a tough road for the confirmation of the former Harvard Law School dean. Our U.S. military also is very concerned about her nomination, since it was Dean Kagan who refused to let military recruiters on the Harvard campus, and who is also critical of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy regarding homosexuals.

Additional troubling information for conservatives emerged during Kagan's confirmation hearings as Solicitor General when she indicated that there would be times she would use foreign law as a basis for her positions. That doesn't sit well with many pro-life leaders who know that international law tends to promote the idea of universally available abortions. The loyalty of any Supreme Court Justice must rest with our Constitution, not international law, which is often drafted by leftists. Hearings for this appointment are expected to begin June 28. Please contact your U.S. Senators now and urge them to vote against Kagan's confirmation. □

## PA Legislature Again Considers Birth Certificates for Stillborns

Once again, the Pennsylvania legislature is considering legislation requiring birth certificates to be issued for stillborn babies. Twenty-seven states now have such legislation, but some abortion rights advocates are concerned because of the public relations nightmare issuing birth certificates for aborted infants would unleash. Pro-life advocates generally approve of the "humanization" such legislation would promote for both stillborn and aborted babies. □



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