

State of South Dakota

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2019

337B0859

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5

Introduced by: Senators Nelson, DiSanto, Jensen (Phil), Monroe, and Russell

1 A RESOLUTION, Petitioning Congress and the President to immediately defund Planned
2 Parenthood of all federal funding; strongly condemning the recent unrestrictive abortion
3 laws passed in New York and Vermont; and, expressing South Dakotans' continued resolve
4 to secure the blessings of life and liberty for our posterity.

5 WHEREAS, New York and Vermont recently passed abortion laws essentially making it
6 legal to abort a baby at any stage of pregnancy, up to the moment of birth, and even removed
7 legal protections for babies born alive from botched abortions; and

8 WHEREAS, according to its latest annual report, the Planned Parenthood Federation of
9 America and its affiliates were responsible for 332,757 abortions in the United States in 2018,
10 thereby representing an increase of approximately 11,000 abortions from the prior year and
11 increasing the total number of babies killed to more than an estimated 8,326,000; and

12 WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood's total revenue in fiscal year 2017 was \$1.665 billion,
13 including \$563.8 million from tax payer funding – record highs for both categories; and

14 WHEREAS, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, Planned Parenthood's
15 advocacy and political arms spent more than \$8.1 million in 2018 to elect political candidates



1 sympathetic to their policy objectives on abortion; and

2 WHEREAS, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
3 Planned Parenthood provides about one-third to one-half of all abortions in the United States;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood referred only 2,831 women to adoption services during
6 the entire year of 2018 – about 1,000 less than the year before; and

7 WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood claims it is a health organization, yet its annual report
8 shows a dramatic decrease in most of its non-abortion services – the issuance of contraceptives
9 was down by 80,000, cancer screenings were down by 45,000, and other women's health
10 services, such as well-woman exams and prenatal services decreased by 13,000; and

11 WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood President Dr. Leana Wen recently acknowledged that
12 abortion is not just a service the organization provides, but it is Planned Parenthood's core
13 mission; and

14 WHEREAS, in July 2015, investigative journalists with the Center for Medical Progress
15 began releasing a series of undercover videos in which various senior leaders of Planned
16 Parenthood spoke in astonishingly frank and horrific ways about unborn babies, their use of
17 illegal abortion methods, and their harvesting of tissues and organs from unborn babies to
18 further profit from the practice of abortion; and

19 WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives Select Investigative Panel on Infant
20 Lives and the United States Senate Judiciary Committee have each made criminal referrals to
21 the Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation after each found evidence that
22 Planned Parenthood and others in the abortion industry may have violated federal law by the use
23 of illegal abortion methods, including late-term, partial-birth, and born-alive abortions, and the
24 procurement of fetal tissue for profit; and

1 WHEREAS, although in 2015, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 241-187 to approve
2 H.R. 3134, the Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2015, the legislation has languished and
3 Planned Parenthood continues to receive more than half a billion dollars each year from United
4 States taxpayers; and

5 WHEREAS, our children and pre-born children are our posterity; and

6 WHEREAS, our most important blessing is the right to life; and

7 WHEREAS, the right to life of all innocent persons is God-given and unalienable; and

8 WHEREAS, it has been forty-six years since the Roe v. Wade decision of the Supreme
9 Court of the United States and the assault on these core principles; and

10 WHEREAS, an estimated sixty-one million, forty-four thousand nine hundred thirty-eighty
11 babies have been aborted in the United States since 1973; and

12 WHEREAS, because South Dakota Codified Law § 26-1-2 states, "A child conceived, but
13 not born, is to be deemed an existing person so far as may be necessary for its interests in the
14 event of its subsequent birth," every time we allow a conceived child to be aborted, we fail in
15 our lawful duty to protect their interests:

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Ninety-Fourth Legislature
17 of the State of South Dakota, that the South Dakota Legislature commits to providing all
18 pre-born children their God-given right to exist and commits to appropriate protections by the
19 Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and emphatically urges the
20 South Dakota Supreme Court, the Governor of South Dakota, the Attorney General of South
21 Dakota, and the Supreme Court of the United States to take all actions necessary to do so; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature strongly condemns the
23 recent unrestrictive abortion laws passed in New York and Vermont; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature denounces the abortion

1 agenda and practices of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its affiliates,
2 especially their role in the killing of 332,757 precious unborn babies in 2018, the use of
3 particularly gruesome abortion methods, and profiteering from harvesting unborn babies' tissues
4 and organs; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature urges the United States
6 Congress and President Donald Trump to defund Planned Parenthood immediately and
7 completely end all federal government support and tax payer funding; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature calls on Representative
9 Dusty Johnson, Senator John Thune, and Senator Mike Rounds to vote against all legislation
10 providing funding to Planned Parenthood; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the President
12 of the United States, the speaker and clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the
13 president and secretary of the United States Senate, the Attorney General of the United States,
14 Representative Dusty Johnson, Senator John Thune, and Senator Mike Rounds.