

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1004

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

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

WHEREAS, according to its latest annual report, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its affiliates were responsible for 332,757 abortions in the United States in 2017, thereby representing an increase of approximately 11,000 abortions from the prior year and increasing the total number of babies killed to more than an estimated 7,600,000; and

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood's total revenue in fiscal year 2018 was \$1.665 billion, including \$563.8 million from tax payer funding – record highs for both categories; and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, Planned Parenthood's advocacy and political arms spent more than \$8.1 million in 2018 to elect political candidates sympathetic to their policy objectives on abortion; and

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

WHEREAS, Planned Parenthood referred only 2,831 women to adoption services during the entire year of 2017 – about 1,000 less than the year before; and

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

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

WHEREAS, in July 2015, investigative journalists with the Center for Medical Progress began

releasing a series of undercover videos in which various senior leaders of Planned Parenthood spoke in astonishingly frank and horrific ways about unborn babies, their use of illegal abortion methods, and their harvesting of tissues and organs from unborn babies to further profit from the practice of abortion; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Ninety-Fourth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, that the South Dakota Legislature commits to providing all pre-born children their God-given right to exist and commits to appropriate protections by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and emphatically urges the South Dakota Supreme Court, the Governor of South Dakota, the Attorney General of South Dakota,

and the Supreme Court of the United States to take all actions necessary to do so; and

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Dakota Legislature denounces the abortion agenda and practices of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and its affiliates, especially their role in the killing of 332,757 precious unborn babies in 2017, the use of particularly gruesome abortion methods, and profiteering from harvesting unborn babies' tissues and organs; and

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

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

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

Steven G. Haugaard
Speaker of the House

Sandra J. Zinter
Chief Clerk of the House