

Highlights of Recent Wisconsin Legislation

Pro-Life

Governor Walker signed the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, a ban on abortions at no later than 20 weeks on 07.20.15 (when fetus is capable of feeling pain – subject to interpretation). It is anticipated that the bill will be a test case for the Supreme Court to rollback Roe v. Wade that allowed unlimited abortions.

State Representative Andre Jacque (R-DePere) announced his renewed push to ban the sale and use of aborted human fetal body parts and defund Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin (PPWI), the state's largest abortion provider, unveiling two proposals which combined are expected to eliminate half or more of the funding each year that Planned Parenthood gets in Wisconsin, by ending the massive overbilling of Medicaid and taxpayers through abuse of the 340 B program and by reprioritizing Title X (family planning) funds to public health programs and agencies. He will also be renewing efforts on the state level with an updated version of 2013 AB 224 to protect the dignity of human life and end the trafficking of aborted baby body parts by preventing their sale, transfer or experimentation.

Education

Approval was given allowing a pupil's parent or guardian to opt out of certain statewide examinations and providing information about mandatory pupil examinations.

Pay Day Lending

There was a last-minute budget provision that would expand payday lending. The provision would permit Wisconsin payday lenders to sell a new range of financial products, including insurance, annuities, and tax preparation services, as well as allow them to do business in casinos and liquor stores, or to directly operate such establishments themselves.

Link to Wisconsin Catholic Conference: <http://www.wisconsincatholic.org>.