

From: [Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>](mailto:toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov)
To: [Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>](mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov)
[Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>](mailto:CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov)
Date: 6/20/2017 9:34:53 AM
Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

The office voted. You okay with:
[Abortion Funding: A Single Penny is a Penny Too Much](#)

From: Danny Varat
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 9:27 AM
To: Tori Beth Black ; Catherine McNicoll
Subject: Re: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

Of these, I would say

[How SC Forces You to Support Abortion](#)
[Abortion Funding: A Single Penny is a Penny Too Much](#)

From: Tori Beth Black
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 9:17 AM
To: Danny Varat; Catherine McNicoll
Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

[Taxpayer Dollars Paid for 40 Abortions](#)
[How You Paid for 40 Abortions](#)
[How Your State Forces You to Support Abortion](#)
[Abortion Funding: A Single Penny is a Penny Too Much](#)

From: Danny Varat
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2017 8:19 AM
To: Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>; Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>
Subject: Re: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed
We Must do More to Stop the Murder of Young Children
Not Another Dime for Planned Parenthood/the Murder of Young Children
South Carolinians do not have to Pay for the Planned Parenthood/Murder of Young Children
Time to Get Planned Parenthood off our Dole and out of South Carolina
We can/Let's Put Planned Parenthood out of Business in SC

From: Tori Beth Black
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 11:26 AM
To: Catherine McNicoll; Danny Varat
Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

[6/19/17 Updated](#) - we shortened it a good bit, took out a couple paragraphs and I changed the intro to try to captivate the reader. Let me know what you think.
Imagine someone murdering little children and then joking about how they did it. Well that is exactly what attendees of the 2014 and 2015 National Abortion Federation conventions did in an alleged video that has recently surfaced. The content of their conversations is shocking, disgusting, and repellent to me and millions of Americans.

In this video, a Planned Parenthood employee says that an unborn child “is a tough little object” and “very difficult” to dismember. An ACLU lawyer complained about the difficulty of breaking a tiny skull-- and the audience laughed. And a Planned Parenthood official discussed the sale of the tissue of these murdered children by saying, “the truth is that some might want to do it ... to increase their revenues. And we can’t stop them.”

I hate what these people do to children, and their vocabulary reflects their total desensitization to the miracle of human life. I pray that someday God will touch their hearts and children will be saved, but until then, I will fight them at every turn.

The most immediate fight that I believe I can win is to ensure that none of the money that belongs to you, the South Carolina taxpayer, reaches abortion facilities that murder our most defenseless citizens.

The truth is that abortion facilities in our state, including Planned Parenthood, receive your money. Planned Parenthood alone received almost \$360,000 from the taxpayer between 2011 and 2016. That money, your money, enhanced their ability to take innocent, young lives. My number one priority is to take that number to ZERO.

In South Carolina, abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood, have potential access to three sources of taxpayer funds.

The first is Medicaid Title X sub-grants. President Trump, in a reversal of the Obama-era position, recently signed legislation to allow states to prohibit Planned Parenthood and other abortion factories from eligibility for these funds. I will fight to ensure that prohibition in South Carolina, and I will support eligibility requirements that disqualify Planned Parenthood from ever receiving these funds.

South Carolina taxpayers also fund Medicaid reimbursements for health services supplied by abortion providers. From 2011-2015 South Carolina Medicaid paid for 29 abortions, this number should have been zero. Missouri has successfully ensured that Medicaid never supports abortion providers with taxpayer dollars, and we should follow their example. South Carolina must refuse federal funds for family planning services and replace them with our own funding in the state budget. This would be approximately \$40 million, or about 0.5% of our \$8 billion budget. We absolutely can find the proverbial pocket change to save young lives.

The state employee health plan also reimburses abortion providers; and since 2011 has reimbursed providers for 11 abortions. These abortions, like those funded by Medicaid, are permitted under one of the three legal exceptions of rape, incest and danger to the life of the mother. I would never ask that life-saving measures be banned, but the prevailing goal of these measures should be the preservation of both the mother and child. However, where the criminal act of the father is used to justify the murder of an innocent life, I encourage lawmakers to consider who is truly innocent and who is truly guilty.

I will always support women accessing important health services, but I cannot tolerate your taxpayer dollars facilitating the murder of children. A single penny for any service is a penny too much to fund an abortion provider because regardless of the service, funding to these providers supports abortion. We can stop it in South Carolina, and that should be the priority for all of us.

Kevin L. Bryant became the 92nd Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina on January 25, 2017 after serving in the South Carolina Senate from 2005 to 2017. He can be reached at ltgov@scstatehouse.gov

From: Catherine McNicoll

Sent: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 2:03 PM

To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>; Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>

Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

[6/14/17 Updated cleaned up version - outstanding notes in Green](#)

Many people reading this column have attended an industry convention where you likely learned a lot and enjoyed some light-hearted conversation with friends colleagues. I suppose that no one reading this, however, has attended the convention of the National Abortion Federation. The industry that takes the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent little boys and girls--every year--actually gathers to talk, and joke, about taking those young lives.

They too learn a lot and engage in, apparently to them, light-hearted conversation. Video of some of their discussions in 2014 and 2015 recently appeared, and the content of their conversations is shocking, disgusting and repellent to me and tens of millions of Americans.

Planned Parenthood, according to the video, comprises about half of the members and leadership of the National Abortion Federation. A Planned Parenthood medical director says on video that, "Given that we might actually both agree that there's violence in here, ask me why I come to work every day. Let's just give them all the violence, it's a person, it's killing, let's just give them all that." (This quote confuses me, I think because it is out of context, I get that it is bad but could we add context by using brackets to insert some context clarification, such as "Given that we [not sure who the we is] might actually both agree that there's violence in here [in abortion], ask me why I come to work every day. Let's just give them all the violence, it's [fetus] a person, it's [abortion] killing, let's just give them all that.")

Another Planned Parenthood employee says that an unborn child "is a tough little object" and "very difficult" to dismember. An ACLU lawyer complained about the difficulty of breaking a tiny skull--and the audience laughed. A discussion of the sale of the tissue of these murdered children includes a Planned Parenthood official commenting that, "the truth is that some might want to do it ... to increase their revenues. And we can't stop them."

I hate what these people do to children, and their vocabulary reflects their total desensitization to the miracle of human life. I pray that someday and someday God will touch their hearts and children will be saved. That day may come, but until then, I will fight them at every turn.

The most immediate fight that I believe I can win is to ensure that none of the money that belongs to you, the South Carolina taxpayer, reaches abortion facilities that murder our most defenseless citizens.

The truth is that abortion facilities in our state, including Planned Parenthood, receive money from you, the taxpayer. Planned Parenthood alone received almost \$360,000 of your money between 2011 and 2016. That money, your money, enhanced their ability to take innocent, young lives. My number one priority is to take that number to ZERO.

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South Carolina taxpayers also fund Medicaid reimbursements for health services supplied by abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood. From 2011-2015 South Carolina Medicaid paid for 29 abortions, this number should have been zero and Missouri has set the example to make that number zero. We can ensure that Medicaid never again pays for murder or supports abortion providers with your tax dollars. South Carolina must refuse federal funds for family planning services and replace them with

our own family planning service funding in the state budget. This would approximately \$40 million, or about 0.5% of our \$8 billion budget. We absolutely can find the proverbial pocket change in the couch to save young lives.

The state employee health plan also reimburses abortion providers. Since 2011, has reimbursed _____ (amount) for 11 abortions. These abortions, like those funded by Medicaid, are permitted under one of the three legal exceptions of rape, incest and danger to the life of the mother. Unlike with Medicaid, South Carolina lawmakers have the opportunity to craft precise terms of the law for the state employee health plan. Where the life of the mother is truly endangered, I would never ask that life-saving measures be banned, but the prevailing goal of these measures should be the preservation of both the mother and child. However, where the criminal act of the father is used to justify the murder of an innocent life, I encourage lawmakers to consider who is truly innocent and who is truly guilty.

I will always support women accessing important health services, but I cannot support your taxpayer dollars supporting an entity that murders children. A single penny for any service in their facilities is a penny too much of your money to fund an abortion provider because regardless of the service, funding to these providers supports abortion. We can stop it in South Carolina, and that should be the priority for all of us.

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*Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs
Lieutenant Governor's Office
CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)*

From: Catherine McNicoll

Sent: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 11:23 AM

To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>; Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>

Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

6/14/17 Updated Edits are in Red.

6/13/17 My thoughts/comments are in blue.

Many people reading this column have attended an industry convention where you likely learned a lot and enjoyed some light-hearted conversation with friends colleagues. I suppose that no one reading this, however, has attended the convention of the National Abortion Federation. The industry that takes the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent little boys and girls--every year--actually gathers to talk, and joke, about taking those young lives.

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that.”]

Another Planned Parenthood employee says that an unborn child “is a tough little object” and “very difficult” to dismember. An ACLU lawyer complained about the difficulty of breaking a tiny skull--and the audience laughed. A discussion of the sale of the tissue of these murdered children includes a Planned Parenthood official commenting that, “the truth is that some might want to do it ... to increase their revenues. And we can’t stop them.”

I hate what these people do to children, and their vocabulary reflects their total desensitization to the preciousness ([I don't love the word preciousness, how about 'miracle', this is also really a style thing so feel free to ignore.](#)) of human life. I pray that someday and someday God will touch their hearts and children will be saved. That day may come, but until then, I will fight them at every turn.

The most immediate fight that I believe [that](#) I can win is to ensure that none of the money that belongs to you, the South Carolina taxpayer, reaches abortion facilities that murder our most defenseless citizens.

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South Carolina taxpayers also fund Medicaid reimbursements for health services supplied by abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood. [From 2011-2015 South Carolina Medicaid paid for 29 abortions, this number should have been zero and Missouri has set the example to make that number zero.](#) We can ensure that Medicaid never again pays for murder or [in any way](#) supports abortion [providers](#) with your tax dollars. South Carolina must refuse federal funds for family planning services and replace them with our own family planning service funding in the state budget. This would approximately \$40 million, or about 0.5% of our \$8 billion budget. We absolutely can find the proverbial pocket change in the couch to save young lives.

The state employee health plan [also reimburses abortion providers](#). Since 2011, has reimbursed _____ (amount) for 11 abortions. These abortions are permitted under one of the three legal exceptions of rape, incest and danger to the life of the mother. I never would ask a woman to risk her own life, but I also do not believe that an innocent child must lose their life for the crime of another. [Where the life of the mother is truly endangered, I would never ask that life-saving measures be banned, but the prevailing goal of these measures should be the preservation of both the mother and child. However, where the criminal act of the father is used to justify the murder of an innocent life, I encourage lawmakers to consider who is truly innocent and who is truly guilty.](#) I encourage lawmakers to review this law with an eye toward who truly is innocent and who truly is guilty. I will always support women accessing important health services, but I cannot support your taxpayer dollars supporting an entity that murders children. A single penny for any service in their facilities is a penny too much of your money to fund an abortion provider because regardless of the service, funding to these providers supports abortion. We can stop it in South Carolina, and that should be the priority for all of us.

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Should we acknowledge that the three exceptions apply to both Medicaid and the State Health Plan? If you think so, this is a rework of the language:

South Carolina taxpayers also fund Medicaid reimbursements for health services supplied by abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood. From 2011-2015 South Carolina Medicaid paid for 29 abortions, this number should have been zero and Missouri has set the example to make that number zero. We can ensure that Medicaid never again pays for murder or supports abortion providers with your tax dollars. South Carolina must refuse federal funds for family planning services and replace them with our own family planning service funding in the state budget. This would approximately \$40 million, or about 0.5% of our \$8 billion budget. We absolutely can find the proverbial pocket change in the couch to save young lives.

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Best Regards,

Catherine McNicoll

Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs

Lieutenant Governor's Office

CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov

803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Catherine McNicoll

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 4:56 PM

To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>; Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>

Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

My thoughts/comments are in blue.

Many people reading this column have attended an industry convention where you likely learned a lot and enjoyed some light-hearted conversation with friends colleagues. I suppose that no one reading this, however, has attended the convention of the National Abortion Federation. The industry that takes the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent little boys and girls--every year--actually gathers to talk, and joke, about taking those young lives.

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that.”]

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The most immediate fight that I believe [that](#) I can win is to ensure that none of the money that belongs to you, the South Carolina taxpayer, reaches abortion facilities that murder our most defenseless citizens.

The truth is that abortion facilities in our state, including Planned Parenthood, receive money from you, the taxpayer. Planned Parenthood alone received almost \$290,000 of your money between 2011 and 2015 ([I have the 2016 amount if you want to add that in, \\$72867](#)). That money, your money, enhanced their ability to take innocent, young lives. My number one priority is to take that number to ZERO.

Abortion providers like Planned Parenthood have potential access to three sources of South Carolina taxpayer funds.

The first is Medicaid Title X sub-grants. President Trump, in a reversal of the Obama-era position, recently signed legislation to allow states to prohibit Planned Parenthood and other abortion factories from eligibility for these funds. I will fight to ensure that prohibition in South Carolina, and I will support eligibility requirements that defund Planned Parenthood in this context. ([You can't defund something that isn't funded ". . . I will support eligibility requirements that disqualify Planned Parenthood from ever receiving these funds."](#))

South Carolina taxpayers also fund Medicaid reimbursements for health services supplied by abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood. *From 2011-2015 Medicaid paid _____ to abortion facilities for all services provided, which included 29 abortions.* ([This sentence needs to go, the dollar amount paid to Abortion Providers is the same as paid to Planned Parenthood, because neither of the other providers is a Medicaid provider. Further, we need to clarify our definition of abortion provider if we want to include the total amount paid by Medicaid. I define it as the three stand-alone family planning clinics that are licensed by DHEC to perform abortions. However, we have learned that hospitals also perform abortions. This also raises issues with the next sentence, I'm not sure the ramifications of Medicaid refusing to reimburse abortions in hospitals. In that context it may be more expansive than just stripping the family planning funds.](#))

We can ensure that Medicaid never again pays for murder or in any way supports abortion facilities with your tax dollars. South Carolina must refuse federal funds for family planning services and replace them with our own family planning service funding in the state budget. This would approximately \$40 million, or about 0.5% of our \$8 billion budget. We absolutely can find the proverbial pocket change in the couch to save young lives.

The state employee health plan, since 2011, has reimbursed _____ (amount) for 11 abortions. These abortions are permitted under one of the three legal exceptions of rape, incest and danger to the life of the mother. I never would ask a woman to risk her own life, but I also do not believe that an innocent child must lose their life for the crime of another. ([This sentence isn't clear, it seems like you are distinguishing the excepted circumstances but at the same time conflating them, which is problematic](#)). I encourage lawmakers to review this law with an eye toward who truly is innocent and who truly is guilty.

I will always support women accessing important health services, but I cannot support your taxpayer dollars supporting an entity that murders children. A single penny for any service in their facilities is a penny too much of your money to fund an abortion provider because regardless of the service, funding to these providers supports abortion. We can stop it in South Carolina, and that should be the priority for all of us.

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Best Regards,

Catherine McNicoll

Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs

Lieutenant Governor's Office

CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov

803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Danny Varat

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 3:09 PM

To: Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>; Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>

Subject: Re: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

Please review when you can. I've taken a little different tack to make sure that defunding PP is the clear message. I've tried to incorporate Catherine's thoughts on taking us down the road of defunding major hospitals, but I think eligibility language covers that. Give me your feedback when you can.

Many people reading this column have attended an industry convention where you likely learned a lot and enjoyed some light-hearted conversation with friends colleagues. I suppose that no one reading this, however, has attended the convention of the National Abortion Federation. The industry that takes the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent little boys and girls--every year--actually gathers to talk, and joke, about taking those young lives.

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The state employee health plan, since 2011, has reimbursed _____ (amount) for 11 abortions. These abortions are permitted under one of the three legal exceptions of rape, incest and danger to the life of the mother. I never would ask a woman to risk her own life, but I also do not believe that an innocent child must lose their life for the crime of another. I encourage lawmakers to review this law with an eye toward who truly is innocent and who truly is guilty.

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From: Tori Beth Black
Sent: Friday, June 9, 2017 5:23 PM
To: Catherine McNicoll; Danny Varat
Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

[Didn't get to spend as much time on it as I would've liked today but let me know what you think of the intro.](#)

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Friday, June 09, 2017 11:27 AM
To: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
Cc: Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>
Subject: RE: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

Attached is the Budget debate over the proviso which was the one I was looking for. Though I'm not sure what you mean be check a box and donate? I reviewed all the journals for the budget debate in 2012 and these were the only relevant items.

Best Regards,

Catherine McNicoll

Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs

Lieutenant Governor's Office

CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)

From: Danny Varat
Sent: Friday, June 09, 2017 7:39 AM
To: Catherine McNicoll <CatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov>
Cc: Tori Beth Black <toribethblack@scstatehouse.gov>
Subject: Re: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

Great start. I presume you have a lead on the missing dollar amounts and the proviso number. Please also look back at the 2012 budget debate in the Senate. Lee Bright put up an amendment to allow SHP members to check a box and donate to a fund for abortion services. It almost passed. See if you can find that language for inclusion here.

This is what we need to start. The goal is to have this in the papers of the weekend after this coming.

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2017 4:17 PM
To: Danny Varat; Tori Beth Black
Subject: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

Please find attached a very rough draft for defunding abortion providers. I am still waiting on some more numbers to come in.

As you will see with the State Health Plan section, I have left it a little more open for how it can be done because I don't know the exact mechanism. I will be trying to fill in the missing information tomorrow.

Best Regards,

Catherine McNicoll

Director of Legal & Legislative Affairs

Lieutenant Governor's Office

CatherineMcNicoll@SCStatehouse.gov
803-734-5292 (phone)