

**From:** Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>  
**To:** Tori Beth Blacktoribethblack@scstatehouse.gov  
Catherine McNicollCatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov  
**Date:** 6/13/2017 3:09:26 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Rough Draft for Defunding Op-Ed

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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.

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."

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 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.

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. 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.

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.

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. 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.

*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](mailto:ltgov@scstatehouse.gov)*

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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.

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From: Catherine McNicoll  
Sent: Friday, June 09, 2017 11:27 AM  
To: Danny Varat  
Cc: Tori Beth Black  
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*

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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.

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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  
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