



2024 Annual Federal Policy Report: 118th Congress

Executive Summary

Americans United for Life frequently reminds the public that "[Federal Policy is Pro-Life](#)," meaning "A plethora of statutes protects women, unborn children, families, and medical professionals from the harms of abortion violence," and furthermore, that "provisions prohibiting federal funding of abortion or the use of federal facilities for it run throughout the warp and woof of the federal statutes and administrative code." In the 118th Congress, the first full term of Congress since the Supreme Court struck down *Roe v. Wade* in *Jackson Women's Health Organization v. Dobbs*, federal policy remained pro-life policy with Congress maintaining the numerous life-affirming laws it has passed over the decades since *Roe*. All this despite the fact that the 2022 elections failed to deliver a pro-life majority in the Senate and the instability in leadership that continues to plague the House of Representatives.

Moreover, efforts to protect life in the 118th Congress were met with considerable headwinds from the Biden Administration, which showed no restraint in promoting abortion through rules and regulations in almost every federal agency. Disregarding the plethora of federal laws that protect women, unborn children, families, and medical professionals from the harms of abortion violence, President Biden dispatched orders immediately following *Dobbs* for his cabinet to interpret an ad hoc mélange of federal laws to conjure up federal "protections" for the elective termination of human beings in the womb.

Yet the 118th Congress held the line, maintaining longstanding protections including the Hyde Amendment, the Weldon Amendment, and the Church Amendments – a counterweight to the dangerous policies implemented by the Biden Administration that put the lives of women and girls at risk. Now, with the promise of a new pro-life presidential administration, the 119th Congress is poised to do much more to defend human life - and AUL [stands ready](#) to equip Members to utilize the "power of the purse" and the levers of administrative oversight to do so.

The House of Representatives passed five life-affirming bills and several life-affirming appropriations riders in the 118th Congress. In January 2023, the House passed H.R. 26, *the Born-Alive Survivors Protection Act*, and H. Con. Res. 3, "*a resolution condemning the recent attacks on pro-life facilities, groups and churches.*" In January 2024, the House passed H.R. 6914, *the Pregnant Students' Rights Act*, a bill that requires colleges and universities to

inform pregnant students of their rights and of the resources available on campus to ensure no woman feels forced to choose between motherhood and pursuing her education. The House also passed H.R. 7024, the *Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024*, which expands the Child Tax Credit.

Numerous other promising pieces of legislation were introduced in both chambers in the 118th Congress. Detailed below are the ways Americans United for Life has been engaged at the federal level, including legislation, federal comments, amicus briefs, and more.

AUL's Broad-Ranging Impact

AUL was privileged to file **7** amicus briefs on behalf of Members of Congress, led by Congressional pro-life champions Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, Sen. James Risch, Sen. Mike Crapo, Rep. August Pfluger, and Rep. Russ Fulcher. In total, **169** unique Members of Congress signed on to these crucial arguments, **31** Senators and **138** Representatives.

Over **two dozen** bills were introduced with the assistance of AUL (see below).

AUL led over **two dozen** briefings on the Hill, discussing pro-life protections, pro-family policy, physician-assisted suicide, and support for pro-life pregnancy centers.

AUL was instrumental in leading, drafting, or promoting more than **fifty** Congressional and coalition letters by which Congress and the pro-life movement sought to hold the Biden Administration accountable and protect life through federal law.

AUL drafted several comprehensive reports in the realm of federal policy. "[A Time to Choose: Suicide Assistance or Suicide Prevention?](#)" reviewed the state of the political push for assisted suicide in the United States. The report analyzed federal and state case law and statutes regarding assisted suicide. It described why assisted suicide presents a national concern for suicide prevention policies, as well as a discrimination issue for the elderly and persons with disabilities. The report delves into Congress' powers to protect end-of-life patients, such as through its Commerce Clause authority to regulate drugs, or through the Fourteenth Amendment's Enforcement Provision to safeguard persons from disability discrimination and assisted suicide abuse.

AUL's "[Understanding the Mail-order Abortion Rules Within the Federal 'Comstock Act'](#)" published groundbreaking research into the text and statutory history of the Comstock Act's restrictions on mailing abortifacient matter. The 30-page report discusses why the mail-order abortion rules support women's health and safety and help protect against the very real threat of intimate partner violence. The report also addressed common misconceptions, such as how the lack of enforcement has not repealed the law, and, in fact, Congress last amended the law in 1996 to expand it to apply to abortifacient matter sent or received through use of the Internet.

AUL joined Democrats for Life of America to publish [Make Birth Free: A Vision for Congress to Empower American Mothers, Families, and Communities](#). Make Birth Free offers a vision

for Congress to empower American mothers, families, and communities through a groundbreaking and perhaps even bipartisan plan to make birth free to American mothers. The proposal continues to be a catalyst for a national conversation on how the pro-life movement and the American public should support pregnant moms, families, and the unborn. Covering comprehensive prenatal, labor and delivery, neonatal, perinatal, and postpartum care and screenings, Make Birth Free takes into consideration the numerous factors influencing women to abort.

AUL also joined the Blueprint for Life Coalition, a collection of leading pro-life voices from across the country, to launch the [Blueprint for Life](#), a framework of post-*Dobbs* policies built to support mothers and families who choose life. Proposals include expanding the Child Tax Credit, paid family leave, pregnancy center support, childcare, and many more important issues. This commitment from the national pro-life community sends a powerful message that being pro-life includes both advocating to protect the unborn and providing the support needed to care for vulnerable mothers, children, and families.

AUL-Endorsed Legislation

Passed

Pregnant Students' Rights Act [H.R. 6914] – requires colleges and universities to inform pregnant students of their rights and of the resources available on campus to ensure no woman feels forced to choose between motherhood and pursuing her education. *Status:* Passed in the House of Representatives

Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act [H.R.26; S.204] – requires a healthcare practitioner to provide the same standard of care to a child born alive following an abortion or attempted abortion as any other child born alive and establishes penalties for failing to do so and/or intentionally killing or attempting to kill a child born alive. *Status:* Passed in the House of Representatives

Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024 [H.R. 7024] – expands the Child Tax Credit to American families by increasing the refundable portion of the credit for lower-income Americans and indexing the credit to inflation. *Status:* Passed in the House of Representatives.

Expressing the Sense of Congress Condemning the Recent Attacks on Pro-Life Facilities, Groups, and Churches [H.Con.Res.3] – a concurrent resolution condemning the attacks on pro-life facilities, groups, and churches in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs*; and calling on the Biden Administration to use appropriate law enforcement authorities to support their safety. *Status:* Passed in the House of Representatives.

House Resolution Disapproving Title IX Final Rule [H.J.Res.165] – a congressional resolution disapproving the Department of Education rule relating to “Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial

Assistance.” The rule intentionally incorporated abortion into non-discrimination as part of the definition of “pregnancy related condition”. Planned Parenthood’s comment letter rejoiced in the rule’s “robust definition of pregnancy.” *AUL endorsed on pro-life grounds
Status: Passed in the House of Representatives.

Introduced

Providing for Life Act [H.R.4789; S.74] – a legislative package including provisions related to maternal and child support, such as an expanded child tax credit, paid family leave, establishing mentoring programs for new mothers, and creating a clearinghouse of resources for pregnant and new mothers. Other bills incorporated in the package:

- New Parents Act, which allows parents to pull forward social security to finance parental leave;
- Supporting Moms and Children through Child Support Reform Act, which mandates cooperation with child support for SNAP recipients, incentivizes states to establish rules requiring the father to cover half of a woman’s pregnancy costs, and re-routes \$100 million for grants to states for work activities for non-custodial parents under child support orders;
- WIC Reform Act, which expands eligibility for postpartum and breastfeeding mothers to two years after birth, expands the value of the cash-value voucher benefit, requires states to provide information and referrals for participants to establish child support orders if they choose, and mandates that USDA be more responsive in updating the WIC supplemental foods package;
- Lifting Local Communities Act, to expand and codify vital protections for faith-based organizations providing federally-funded social services;
- Community Mentors for Moms Act, which funds local demonstration programs providing volunteer mentoring and peer support services for low-income mothers;
- Pregnant Student’s Rights Act, to strengthen existing requirements for higher education institutions to publicly disclose the resources and rights available for pregnant and parenting students;
- Standing with Moms Act, to establish a federal clearinghouse of resources available to pregnant mothers; and
- Funding for pregnancy resource centers.

Status: Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Ashley Hinson, R-IA) and the Senate (Sen. Marco Rubio, R-FL). Referred to multiple House committees and the Senate Finance Committee.

More Opportunities for Moms to Succeed Act (MOMS Act) [S. 4296] – a legislative package including provisions related to maternal and child support to help mothers and families succeed.

- Creates a federal clearinghouse of resources for expectant moms that includes pregnancy.gov, a national list of licensed child placement services, and a list of funding opportunities available to pregnancy support centers;
- Improves access to prenatal and postnatal resources including positive alternatives for women and telehealth care; and

- Provides child support for unborn children.

Status: Introduced in the Senate (by Sen. Katie Britt, R-AL).

Reproductive Empowerment and Support Through Optimal Restoration (RESTORE) Act [S. 4533] – expands access to restorative reproductive medicine by:

- Promoting educational tools for women seeking information about reproductive health conditions and restorative reproductive medicine;
- Providing training opportunities for medical professionals to learn how to better diagnose and treat reproductive health conditions;
- Directing the Health and Human Service (HHS) Secretary and the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health to conduct data collection and implement ongoing reports to assess the access women have to restorative reproductive medicine and infertility care through proper testing, diagnosis, and treatment of reproductive conditions; and
- Using existing funding opportunities in Title X and HHS Office of Population Affairs to promote medical training for medical students and professionals called to help women struggling with reproductive health conditions and infertility.

Status: Introduced in the Senate (by Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, R-MS and Sen. James Lankford, R-OK).

Military Moms Act [S. 4717] – This bill supports maternal healthcare quality and access for mothers serving in the military and dependents of service members by allowing pregnancy to be classified as a Qualifying Life Event (QLE) to allow service members or their spouses to change their TRICARE plans. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (by Sen. Marco Rubio, R-FL).

Family Security Act [S. 5256] – This bill increases the child tax credit and provides a new tax credit for pregnant mothers. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (by Sen. Mitt Romney, R-UT).

Conscience Protection Act [S. 4524] – This bill protects health care providers and insurance plans from government discrimination if they decline to participate in abortions, as well as provides a private right of action for victims of conscience discrimination. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (by Sen. James Lankford, R-OK).

Preventing Forced Abortions Act of 2024 [H.R. 8985] – This bill would prohibit federal courts from enforcing surrogacy contracts that require a surrogate mother to have an abortion. The bill would also prevent intended parents from withholding compensation from surrogate mothers who refuse to have an abortion.

Status: Introduced in the Senate (by Rep. Andy Ogles, R-TN).

Chemical Abortion Resolution [H.R. 1285] – This is a resolution to condemn the Biden administration’s Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for lessening patient safeguards for dangerous abortion drugs and jeopardizing the health of women and girls. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (by Rep. Nathaniel Moran, R-TX).

The Protecting Individuals with Down Syndrome Act [H.R.461; S.18] – prohibits healthcare practitioners from aborting an unborn child because the unborn child has received a diagnosis of Down Syndrome, consistent with federal laws protecting individuals with disabilities against discrimination. *Status:* Introduced in both the House (by Rep. Ron Estes, R-KS) and the Senate (by Sen. Steve Daines, R-MT). Both chambers referred the Bill to their respective judiciary committees.

Second Chance at Life Act of 2023 [H.R.983] – requires abortion providers to inform patients that it is possible to reverse the effects of a medication abortion after taking the first drug in the chemical abortion regimen. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (by Rep. Doug Lamborn, R-CO).

No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act [H.R.7, S.62] – prohibits the use of federal funds for abortion or for health coverage that includes abortions and prohibits abortions from being performed in federal healthcare facilities and/or by federal employees. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Chris Smith, R-NJ) and the Senate (Sen. Roger Wicker, R-MS). Referred to House Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means Committees; Senate Finance Committee.

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives condemning the recent attacks on pro-life facilities, groups, and churches [H.Res.1233] – a resolution condemning attacks on pro-life facilities, groups, and churches and calls on the current presidential administration to use appropriate law enforcement authorities to support their safety. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Mike Johnson, R-LA), and referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Protecting Life from Chemical Abortions Act [H.R.384] – nullifies the January 2023 REMs changes made by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding Mifepristone and prohibits the FDA from (1) exercising any enforcement discretion regarding program requirements or (2) reducing program protections until every state submits certain data regarding abortions to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It also prohibits the declaration of a public health emergency with respect to abortion. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Kevin Hern, R-OK) and referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Standing with Moms Act [H.R.517; S.76] – requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to maintain and disseminate information about pregnancy-related resources that are available through federal, state, and local governments as well as private entities. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Nancy Mace, R-SC) and the Senate (Sen. Marco Rubio, R-FL). Referred to the House Subcommittee on Health and the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

HEALING Mothers and Fathers Act [S.166] – provides family and medical leave due to the spontaneous loss of an unborn child, establishes a tax credit for an individual who experiences the stillbirth of a child, and prohibits the Office of Population Affairs within

HHS from providing federal assistance to family planning programs that (1) perform abortions, (2) provide funding to another entity that performs abortions, or (3) refers patients to abortion providers. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Tom Cotton, R-AR), and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act [H.R.330, S.624] – prohibits HHS from awarding family planning grants to entities that perform abortions or provide funding to other entities that perform abortions. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Virginia Foxx, R-NC) and referred to the Subcommittee on Health; introduced in the Senate (Sen. Marsha Blackburn, R-TN) and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

A Joint Resolution Providing for Congressional Disapproval Under Chapter 8 of Title 5, United States Code, of the Rule Submitted by the Department of Veterans Affairs Relating to "Reproductive Health Services." [S.J.Res.10] – nullifying the interim final rule issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) titled "Reproductive Health Services" and published on September 9, 2022, authorizing the VA to provide certain abortion-related care to veterans. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-AL), motion to proceed to consideration of the measure was rejected by the Senate by Yea-Nay vote of 48-51.

Prohibiting Federal Emergencies for Abortion Act [H.R.1143; S.196] – prohibits the President and HHS from declaring a federal emergency related to abortion, specifically for the purposes of (1) promoting, supporting, or expanding access to abortion, or (2) taking adverse action against or litigating against states that prohibit or restrict abortion. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. August Pfluger, R-TX); introduced in the Senate (Sen. Marco Rubio, R-FL) and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Women's Public Health and Safety Act [H.R. 1074; S.471] – allows a state to exclude a provider that performs an abortion from the state's Medicaid program unless (1) the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest, or (2) the mother suffers from a physical issue that would place her in danger of death absent the abortion. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Michael Cloud, R-TX); introduced in the Senate (Sen. James Lankford, R-OK) and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Health, Opportunity, Protecting Life, Education (HOPE) Act [H.R. 1126] – provides funding for grants and other activities related to maternal care and establishes informed consent/parental notification requirements for abortion providers and prohibits federal funding of Planned Parenthood or its affiliates for one year following the enactment of the bill. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Michelle Fischbach, R-MN) and referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

A Resolution Recognizing the Expiration of the Equal Rights Amendment Proposed by Congress in March 1972, and Observing that Congress has no Authority to Modify a Resolution Proposing a Constitutional Amendment after the Amendment has been

Submitted to the States or After the Amendment has Expired [S.Res.107] – a resolution recognizing that Congress may not modify a resolution to amend the Constitution once it has been submitted to the states for ratification and/or its ratification deadline expires. It also recognizes that the ERA deadline has expired, and therefore that amendment may not become part of the Constitution unless Congress restarts the amendment process outlined in Article V of the Constitution. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, R-MS) and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Safeguarding Women’s and Children’s Health Act of 2023 [H.R. 2570] – requires the Secretary of HHS to require any abortion drug, including any abortion drug approved by the FDA prior to the date of the enactment of this act, to have a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy to ensure accurate reporting on chemical abortions and their related adverse events. It also provides for the improved reporting of data related to chemical abortions by requiring the CDC to collect and aggregate various data with respect to abortion drugs. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. August Pfluger, R-TX) and referred to the Health Subcommittee of the Energy & Commerce Committee.

Child Tax Credit for Pregnant Moms Act of 2023 [H.R.4258; S.2092] – allows a child tax credit for an unborn child who is born alive. It allows the credit upon certification that a mother’s pregnancy resulted in a miscarriage (the involuntary death of an unborn child carried in the womb for less than 20 weeks) or that the child was stillborn (the involuntary death of an unborn child who was carried in the womb for 20 weeks or more. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, R-IA) and referred to the Subcommittee on Health; introduced in the Senate (Rep. Steve Daines) and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Celebrating the Historic Anniversary of the June 24, 2022, decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization [H.Res.546; S.Res.272] – a resolution celebrating the anniversary of the Supreme Court’s landmark decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Christopher Smith, R-NJ) and Introduced in the Senate (Rep. Marco Rubio, R-FL). The resolutions were referred to each chamber’s respective Judiciary Committee.

A Bill to Amend Title 40, United States Code, to Prohibit the Administrator of General Services from Constructing or Acquiring Public Buildings or Entering into Leases Based on the Legality of Availability of Abortion, and for Other Purposes [H.R.4672; S.2089] – prohibits the Administrator of General Services from constructing or acquiring public buildings or entering into leases based on the legality of availability of abortion. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Robert Aderholt, R-AL) and referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management; introduced in the Senate (Sen. Roger Marshall, R-KS) and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Prevent Discrimination in Title X Act [H.R.5076, S.2539] – clarifies that the Secretary of Health and Human Services may not discriminate against eligible states, individuals, or

entities in awarding funding under Title X of the Public Health Service Act based on their refusal to counsel or refer women for abortions. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Tom Cole, R-OK) and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce; introduced in the Senate (Sen. James Lankford, R-OK) and referred to the committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Protecting Girls with Turner Syndrome Act of 2023 [H.R.5167] – prohibits discrimination by abortion against an unborn child on the basis of Turner syndrome. Turner syndrome is a condition that affects only females, as it occurs when one of the X chromosomes is missing or partially missing, resulting in various developmental and medical health complications. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Randy Feenstra, R-IA) and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Life.Gov Act [H.R.5406] – supports the creation of a first-of-its-kind website that would provide information on local resources available to those who are experiencing an unexpected pregnancy, as well as expectant mothers and families. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Diana Harshbarger, R-TN) and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health.

Pharmacist Conscience Protection Act [H.R.279] – prohibits the federal government and federally funded entities from discriminating or otherwise taking adverse action against a pharmacist, pharmacy owner, or pharmacy technician who declines to store, fill prescriptions for, or make referrals for drugs that cause abortions or that the individual provider believes in good faith cause abortions. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Earl “Buddy” Carter, R-GA) and referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Ending Chemical Abortions Act of 2023 [H.R.5806] – prohibits chemical abortions. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Andrew Ogles, R-TN), referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A Concurrent Resolution Expressing Support for the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family and Urging that the United States Rejoin this Historic Declaration [H.Con.Res.74; S.Con.Res.22] – resolution expressing support for the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family and urges that the United States rejoin the historic declaration. It affirms the commitments to protect life and the family made in the Geneva Consensus Declaration. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Jim Banks, R-IN) and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs; introduced in the Senate (Sen. Steve Daines, R-MT) and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Protect Funding for Women’s Health Care Act [S.13] – prohibits federal funding of Planned Parenthood or its affiliates, subsidiaries, successors, or clinics. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Joni Ernst, R-IA), and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act of 2024 [H.R.4665] – protects life and supports American values by:

- Maintaining all long-standing, pro-life protections
- Applying the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy on all health funds in the Act
- Prohibiting funds to the U.N. Population Fund
- Supporting religious freedom protections for faith-based organizations delivering foreign aid

Status: Passed the House.

Simon Crosier Act [H.R. 6344] – requires hospitals and other health care providers, as a condition of Medicare and Medicaid participation, to have written policies and procedures in place that limit the implementation of do-not-resuscitate (DNR) orders for unemancipated minors in accordance with specified criteria. Such policies and procedures must (1) require the informed consent of at least one parent and a reasonable attempt to contact the other parent before instituting a DNR order, (2) allow either parent to refuse to consent to a DNR order, and (3) allow a parent to transfer a minor to another facility after being informed of an intent to institute a DNR order. *Status:* Introduced (Rep. Jake LaTurner, R-KS) and referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Let Pregnancy Centers Serve Act [H.R. 7427, S.3611] – nullifies a Biden administration proposed rule that would deny Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program funding to pregnancy centers even if they meet one or more of TANF's statutory purposes. It would (1) clarify the longstanding authority of States to provide TANF funds to pregnancy centers and alternatives to abortion programs for services that fulfill the purposes of TANF and (2) provide a private right of action to protect pregnancy centers that suffer federal discrimination. *Status:* Introduced in the House (Rep. Christopher Smith, R-NJ) and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, R-MS) and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Pregnancy Centers Support Act of 2024 [H.R. 7045, S.3610] – allows a credit against tax for contributions to qualifying pregnancy centers. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Carol Miller, R-WV) and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, R-MS) and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Protecting Life and Integrity in Research Act of 2024 [S.3713] – prohibits the Federal Government from conducting, funding, approving, or otherwise supporting any research involving human fetal tissue that is obtained pursuant to an induced abortion, and to prohibit the solicitation or knowing acquisition, receipt, or acceptance of a donation of such tissue. *Status:* Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, R-MS) and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Unborn Child Support Act [H.R. 7052, S.3622] – requires states to apply child support obligations to the time period during pregnancy. This requirement is applicable retroactively based on a court order at the request of the pregnant parent and a

determination by a physician of the month during which the child was conceived. Existing state requirements are applicable to these obligations, such as proof of parenthood. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Claudia Tenney, R-NY) and referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Kevin Cramer, R-ND) and referred to the Committee on Finance

Women's Right to Know Act [H.R. 7044, S.3609] – specifies requirements for informed consent that health care providers must obtain before performing an abortion procedure. Providers must present a woman seeking an abortion with an authorization form at least 24 hours before performing the procedure. The form must (1) include specified information concerning gestational age, associated developmental characteristics, and medical risks; (2) disclose penalties that providers may face for failing to obtain the requisite informed consent; and (3) include an affirmation that the individual signing the form understands the information. The form must be signed and witnessed in person and retained in the medical file.

Status: Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Lisa McClain, R-MI) and referred to the Subcommittee on Health. Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Marsha Blackburn, R-TN) and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act [H.R. 6918, S.3741] – prohibits the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing (with respect to certain pregnancy centers) a provision of a proposed rule modifying the standard for a state's reasonable use of funds under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. The proposed rule provides that if ACF identifies a TANF expenditure that does not appear to reasonably accomplish a purpose of TANF then the state must show that it used the funds in a manner that a reasonable person would consider to be within one of the purposes. It also prohibits ACF from applying this standard to state expenditures for pregnancy centers that (1) support protecting the life of the mother and the unborn child; and (2) offer resources and services to mothers, fathers, and families, including but relationship counseling, prenatal and pregnancy education, pregnancy testing, diapers, baby clothes, or material supports. *Status:* Passed in the House of Representatives after being introduced by Rep. Michelle Fischbach (R-MN). Introduced in the Senate (Sen. Tim Scott, R-SC).

Second Chance for Moms Act [H.R. 7823] – requires a warning label advising that the effects of mifepristone can be counteracted and to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a hotline to provide information to women seeking to counteract the effects of mifepristone. *Status:* Introduced in the House of Representatives (Rep. Mary Miller, R-IL) and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

VA Abortion Transparency Act [H.R.8029, S.4128] – holds the Department of Veterans Affairs accountable and would impose new abortion reporting requirements on taxpayer funding of abortion. *Status:* Introduced in the House by Rep. Marianette Miller-Meeks, R-IN and referred to the Health Subcommittee of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and in the Senate (by Sen. Tommy Tuberville, R-AL), where it was referred to the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Congressional Amicus Briefs

Supreme Court of the United States

State of Oklahoma v. United States Department of Health and Human Services

AUL filed an [amicus brief](#) at the *certiorari* stage on behalf of five Senators and fourteen Members of the House of Representatives, including every member of Oklahoma's congressional delegation. Our brief argues for the Members that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services violated the Weldon Amendment when it suspended Oklahoma's Title X award because the state refused to refer patients to an abortion hotline. The Weldon Amendment robustly protects the conscientious objections of health care institutions, regardless of the reason for the objection.

Food & Drug Administration v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine; Danco Laboratories, L.L.C., v Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine

AUL filed an [amicus brief](#) at the merits stage on behalf of 26 Senators and 119 Members of the House of Representatives, representing 36 States. The Members argued that by deregulating chemical abortion drugs, the FDA failed to follow Congress' statutorily prescribed drug approval process to the detriment of patient welfare, and that the FDA's lawless actions ultimately have endangered women and girls. The Members also contributed a federal policy perspective as to why the FDA, in deregulating mifepristone, acted arbitrarily and capriciously in violation of the APA, by (I) subverting its obligations under the FDCA to ensure new drugs are safe and effective; and (II) blatantly disregarding the federal law's prohibition on the mailing and interstate shipment of abortion-inducing drugs. AUL also published resources about this case, such as a [debrief](#) of the oral argument and [analysis](#) of the Supreme Court's decision.

Moyle, Speaker of the Idaho House of Representatives v. United States; Idaho v. United States

AUL filed an [amicus brief](#) at the merits stage on behalf of 26 Senators and 95 Members of the House of Representatives, representing thirty-six States and led by a unanimous Idaho delegation. As pro-life elected representatives, the Members stated, they are committed to protecting women, unborn children, and families from the harms of abortion violence. They argued that under a proper textual interpretation, the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act ("EMTALA"), 42 U.S.C. § 1395dd, safeguards women and unborn children, and does not authorize elective induced abortion. The EMTALA abortion mandate subverted these important interests and contravened Congress' pro-life policy stance. AUL also published resources about this case, including a [debrief](#) of the oral argument and an [analysis](#) of the Supreme Court's decision.

Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. Food and Drug Administration

AUL filed an [amicus curiae brief](#) on behalf of 109 Members of the United States Congress (17 Senators, 92 Representatives, *representing* 32 states) in support of a conditional cross-petition for a writ of *certiorari* for pro-life doctors and medical organizations. The brief

expressed the Members' commitment to protecting women and girls from the harm of the abortion industry. They argued that in approving and then deregulating chemical abortion drugs, the FDA contravened its own regulations and failed to follow Congress' statutorily prescribed drug approval process to the detriment of patient welfare.

Danco Laboratories L.L.C. v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine; U.S. Food & Drug Administration v. Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine [applications for stay]

AUL filed an [amicus curiae brief](#) on behalf of 147 Members of Congress (23 Senators, 124 Representatives, representing 37 states) opposing a stay of the lower court's order that reinstated commonsense health and safety safeguards for women seeking chemical abortions. As pro-life elected representatives, the Members expressed their commitment to protecting women and girls from the harms of the abortion industry, and argued that in approving and deregulating chemical abortion drugs, the FDA failed to follow Congress' statutorily prescribed drug approval process.

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. U.S. Food & Drug Administration

AUL filed an [amicus curiae brief](#) on behalf of 94 Members of Congress (18 Senators, 76 Representatives, representing 34 states), arguing that the FDA's failure to adhere to the Congressionally mandated drug approval process created grave risks to the health and safety of women and girls. Further, the Members argued that the FDA endangered pregnant adolescents seeking chemical abortion drugs by unlawfully subverting pediatric study requirements, and that the FDA endangered women's health by permitting mail-order chemical abortion drugs in violation of federal law.

Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. U.S. Food & Drug Administration [Stay Motion]

AUL filed an [amicus curiae brief](#) on behalf of 69 Members of Congress (11 Senators, 58 Representatives, representing 30 States) opposing a stay of the lower court's order that reestablished patient safeguards during chemical abortions. The brief highlighted the serious threats to the health and safety of women and girls posed by chemical abortion drugs and urged the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit to deny the emergency motion for a stay pending appeal.

Federal District Court for the Northern District of Texas

Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. U.S. Food & Drug Administration

AUL filed an [amicus curiae brief](#) on behalf of 67 Members of Congress (13 Senators, 54 Representatives, representing 31 States), in support of plaintiff's motion for a preliminary injunction, arguing that the FDA's actions contravened federal law and violated the Administrative Procedures Act. As such, the Members argued a preliminary injunction was in the interest of public policy to protect patient safety.

Federal Agency Comments

Federal law (5 U.S.C. § 500 et. seq.) provides that federal agencies may propose and establish regulations pursuant to their authority delegated by Congress, and that interested parties

may submit comments in support of or in opposition to proposed rules, which agencies must consider in rule-making. AUL has filed agency comments opposing numerous Biden Administration proposed rules during the 118th Congress, while encouraging Congress to exercise its oversight authority to ensure that federal agencies do not promote abortion and other life-destroying practices contrary to federal pro-life policy.

HHS Should Keep Robust Religious and Moral Exemptions to the Contraceptive Insurance Mandate

AUL filed a [comment](#) in partial support and partial opposition to HHS' proposed rule, "Coverage of Certain Preventive Services Under the Affordable Care Act." Although AUL takes no stance on the underlying issue of contraceptive use, AUL defends conscientious objections to insurance coverage of contraceptives. Religious exemptions have been prevalent in the rule of law since the time of our nation's founding and exist throughout bioethics and issues involving human life; the Proposed Rules recognize a religious exemption, and HHS should maintain this protection within the Final Rules.

Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA") Safeguards Patients Against Telemedical Suicide Assistance

AUL filed a [comment](#) in support of the DEA's Proposed Rule, "Telemedicine Prescribing of Controlled Substances When the Practitioner and the Patient Have Not Had a Prior In-Person Medical Evaluation." The Proposed Rule restricts telemedical prescriptions for schedule II drugs and narcotics unless the practitioner has a qualifying telemedicine referral. AUL explained in its comment that physician-assisted suicides use lethal dosages of schedule II and narcotic drugs, which means these drugs have a high risk of abuse. Telemedicine restrictions ensure these risks are not exacerbated.

HHS Weakens Abortion and Assisted Suicide Conscience Safeguards

AUL filed a [comment](#) in opposition to the HHS proposed rule "Safeguarding the Rights of Conscience as Protected by Federal Statutes." The Proposed Rule nominally protects conscience rights, but in reality, weakens compliance measures for conscience anti-discrimination laws. As the comment argues, HHS does not have the legal authority to diminish conscience protections, especially for abortion and assisted suicide.

Regarding Regulations to Implement the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

AUL filed a [comment](#) in opposition to EEOC's proposed rule which includes elective induced abortions. In it, Americans United for Life noted that EEOC's proposed rule is an obvious attempt to institute a national abortion policy under a statute that was intended to protect women in the workforce.

Conclusion

Reflecting the divided Congress it was, the 118th Congress offered mixed results in protecting life. As the country turns the page to the 119th Congress, there persists a pro-life foundation in federal policy with opportunities in abundance for strong pro-life legislation and policy that protects mothers, unborn children, and the family. Americans United for Life continues to be at the forefront of this effort through providing testimony and public

comments, supporting federal litigation, and garnering public support for life-saving initiatives. The fight to ensure all are welcomed throughout life and protected in law is a fight that must not fail.