

Support for the Pro-Life Cause

I have always been strongly pro-life and I always will be. This issue goes to the core of our values as a society—protecting those who cannot protect themselves.

I'm pleased to have been repeatedly endorsed by the leading pro-life organizations throughout my tenure in Congress. These include:

- Nebraska Right to Life
- Nebraskans United for Life
- National Right to Life

I make it a point to meet frequently with people who are involved in the pro-life cause, and I have always taken the time to respond to candidate questionnaires sent out by these groups. My feeling is, if a pro-life group takes the time to survey their members and ask questions of public officials, we have an obligation to respond to them.

Also, sometimes politicians will vote on final passage in favor of a pro-life bill, but attempt to water it down in committee or by amendment before then. I simply will not play that game or engage in such maneuvers.

Finally, I will say that the major issue now facing the pro-life movement is the federal healthcare overhaul that was enacted into law. My belief is that the absence of the Stupak Amendment in statute means the door is opened for federal dollars to be used to pay for abortions. The Hyde Amendment does not apply to non-Medicaid funding sources such as federal funds provided to policies listed on the health insurance exchange or to federally qualified health centers. We will no doubt have a major debate on this issue as the healthcare provisions begin to be implemented. My view is that the law is fatally flawed in a number of respects, and the failure to prohibit taxpayer funding of abortions is one of the most egregious.