



Elections & Laws for Life

April 20, 2021

Dear Representative,

I write to advise you that Susan B. Anthony List, on behalf of our more than 900,000 members, strongly opposes and will score against H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act. Aside from the constitutionally suspect issue of turning the seat of the federal government of the United States into a state and removing it from federal jurisdiction, D.C. statehood would also lead to an increase in funding for abortion through Medicaid.

The Dornan Amendment, sometimes referred to as the District of Columbia (D.C.) Hyde Amendment, is a funding ban in the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill that ensures taxpayer money cannot finance abortions in the District of Columbia. In 2009, Democrats succeeded in temporarily repealing the amendment. Due to administrative delays within the district, however, taxpayer funding of abortions did not begin until August of 2010 and was quickly brought to a halt shortly thereafter by the restoration of the Dornan Amendment for Fiscal Year 2011. During those few months, taxpayers in the district tragically paid for no less than 300 abortions. D.C. statehood would remove the ability for the federal government to limit such funding. If D.C. were to become the 51st state, it would join the list of states that use state tax dollars to fund abortions for women enrolled in Medicaid. An analysis by Charlotte Lozier Institute shows the expected number of taxpayer funded abortions in D.C. if it became a state would range from 1,400-1,500 per year.

Additionally, the admission of Washington, D.C. as a state is an attempt to add two Democratic senators to the Senate where they would stand in the way of pro-life legislation designed to defend our most basic rights, the first of which is life. Furthermore, two senators from the newly formed state would undoubtedly vote in lockstep with the abortion lobby to confirm only the most radical pro-abortion judges and justices.

At a time when the most basic protections for life are under extreme pressure from pro-abortion legislators, and when the independence of the Supreme Court itself is being threatened, pro-life members of Congress must stand united against efforts to stack the deck against life.

Susan B. Anthony List strongly opposes and will score against H.R. 51.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Dannenfelser
President
Susan B. Anthony List