

## The Supreme Court Will Review a Mississippi Abortion Law

by Wanda Franz, Ph.D.

On May 10, the Supreme Court announced that it would hear a case from Mississippi challenging *Roe vs. Wade* and *Doe vs. Bolton*. This is the first case on abortion taken up by the Supreme Court's presumed new 6-to-3 conservative majority.

The case is *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. This case challenged a law passed by the Republican-dominated Mississippi legislature in 2018 banning abortions if "the probable gestational age of the unborn human" was determined to be more than 15 weeks." According to the Guttmacher Institute, in 2016, 94.6% of all abortions were performed at 15 weeks

of pregnancy or earlier. Only 5.4% of abortions were performed at 16 weeks or later.

The law was determined by the lower courts to be plainly unconstitutional under *Roe* and *Doe*. Judge Carlton W. Reeves of Federal District Court in Jackson, MS blocked the law in 2018 saying the legal issue was straightforward and questioning the state lawmakers' motives.

A three-judge panel of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, in New Orleans, affirmed Judge Reeves' ruling. However, one of the judges, Judge James C. Ho, issued an opinion expressing misgivings about the current abortion

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## WVSpeaks.com Provides Necessary Vehicle to Contact Senator Manchin

In April, West Virginians for life (WVFL) lauched the WVSpeaks.com website in order to encourage West Virginians to contact the office of democrat Senator Joe Manchin. As a democrat, he is important to the country as a whole in being able to hold off some pretty horrible anti-life bills proposed by the Biden-Harris administration.

The most important thing we can do is to thank Senator Manchin for his stand on the filibuster. His firm stance on that will hold off all the other bad legislation such as the so-called "For the People Act of 2021", the so-called "Equality Act", and the Equal Rights Amendment.

All of these bills/resolutions are addressed on the WVSpeaks.com website in addition to links to National Right to Life explaining in detail what is good or bad with quick and easy ways to call and email your messages to Senator Manchin.

There are memes there, too, that can be shared on social media.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has used a special shortcut procedure ("Rule 14") to prevent referral of these bills to committee, which means that they are available for floor action at any time. Because it is uncertain as to when these bills will be voted on, you have yet another reason to visit WVSpeaks.com often.

**WVSPEAKS.com**  
Make America Pro-Life

Senator Manchin needs to hear from you regarding his promise to keep the filibuster in the Senate in order to pass legislation with 60% of the Senators' votes, instead of 51%, to make it easier to pass their pro-abortion agenda.

Thank Manchin by calling (202) 224-3954.

West Virginians for Life  
304.594.9845 wvforlife.org

JOE MANCHIN III  
WEST VIRGINIA

SUITE 306  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-3954

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

COMMITTEES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
ARMED SERVICES  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for contacting me to express your opinion on the prospect of ending the filibuster on pieces of legislation. Let me be clear, I'm in the same place I've always been on the filibuster. I sit in Robert C. Byrd's seat. There's not a person that defended the Senate more than he did, that believed in the rules of the Senate and the specific cause of the Senate, which is that the minority has input. I am not in favor of any proposal that gets rid of the filibuster. Period.

Robert Byrd once asked me: "Joe, why do you think it is that big ol' New York and tiny little Rhode Island each get two votes in the U.S. Senate? Equal representation," he said.

In the early years of Congress, representatives as well as senators could filibuster. As the House of Representatives grew in numbers, however, revisions to the House rules limited opportunities for minority obstruction. The smaller Senate did not adopt similar rules and came to view unlimited debate as essential to the role of the Senate as a deliberative body where each state is equally represented.

The above excerpt of a letter from Senator Joe Manchin to a constituent makes it clear that he will vote to KEEP the filibuster (the position of West Virginians for Life and National Right to Life). This letter can be read in its entirety at WVSpeaks.com.

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State Affiliate to the National  
Right to Life Committee

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**LIFE MATTERS  
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*NRL Representative*  
**Wanda Franz, Ph.D.**

*Publisher*  
**Wanda Franz, Ph.D.**

*Editor*  
**Mary Anne Buchanan**

*Graphic Designer*  
**Cheryl Carr**

Contributors: Mary Anne Buchanan, Cheryl Carr, Karen Cross, Margaret Deely, Wanda Franz, Ph.D., Patricia Johnson, Pastor Doug Joseph, Jacki Ragan, and Mary Tillman, J.D.

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## From the President



### Use WVSpeaks.com to Make a Difference

*Dear Friends,*

West Virginians for Life has developed a new project called **WV Speaks**. This project will demonstrate that West Virginians are pro-life and they are calling on their Senator, Joe Manchin, to vote pro-life as their representative in the Senate.

The Biden-Harris Administration has become the most pro-abortion administration in the history of our country. Through Executive Orders, Biden has already undermined many of the pro-life policies of the Trump Administration. However, the greatest damage to unborn children in this country will be done by federal legislation.

The U.S. House of Representatives has a pro-abortion Democrat majority that will vote to pass the agenda of the Biden-Harris Administration. However, the legislation must then go to the U.S. Senate where final passage will be determined. Important pro-abortion legislation has already passed in the House, which, if passed in the Senate, would remove ALL the pro-life work done here in West Virginia on behalf of the unborn and their mothers.

In the U.S. Senate, the filibuster has long protected minority rights by requiring that 60% of the members of the Senate are required to put a piece of legislation up for a vote. The pro-abortion forces in Congress want to remove the filibuster, so their agenda can be passed with only 51% of the members instead of 60% as required by the filibuster. The Democrats only have enough Senators to provide 51% of a vote. Senator Manchin, as a Democrat, has repeatedly expressed

strong support for maintaining the filibuster rule in the Senate. He is preventing the Democrats from being able to pass the legislation. He is the one man, who has the power to protect or destroy human life. We in West Virginian have an important role to play in protecting America from the damage that could be done by the pro-abortion majority in the Democrat Party. Our voice is critically important because we can influence Senator Manchin's votes.

Because our West Virginia voice is so important, West Virginians for Life, through **WV Speaks**, asks West Virginians to contact Senator Joe Manchin to thank him for standing up for the filibuster and pledging to support it. We also ask him to vote "no" on the Biden Abortion Agenda, including: (1) passage of the ERA (Equal Rights Amendment), which would eliminate all the pro-life protective legislation passed here in WV; (2) the so-called Equality Act, which would make abortions more available and expand taxpayer funding of abortion; and (3) the so-called For the People Act of 2021, which would put restrictions on free speech and pile layers of abusive record-keeping on us.

**WV Speaks** is using mail, robocalls, and social media to publicize our message to provide Senator Joe Manchin with the information that his constituents want him to vote pro-life. WV is pro-life. WV is courageous. We can make a difference.

*Wanda Franz, Ph.D.*

**Wanda Franz, Ph.D., President**

# The Supreme Court Will Review a Mississippi Abortion Law

*(continued from page 1)*

policy as determined by the Supreme Court: "Nothing in the text or original understanding of the Constitution establishes a right to an abortion. Rather, what distinguishes abortion from other matters of health care policy in America – and uniquely removes abortion policy from the democratic process established by our Founders – is Supreme Court precedent."

This case will take up the question of the timing in utero of the right to abortion. Lynn Fitch, Mississippi's attorney general, urged the justices to hear the state's appeal in order to reconsider their abortion jurisprudence: "Viability is not an appropriate standard for assessing the constitutionality of a law regulating abortion."

"Viability is not a characteristic of the baby but of how advanced our technology has become," said Carol Tobias, president of National Right to Life." Jennifer Popik, J.D., federal legislative director for NRLC said, "There is precedent for prohibiting abortions before viability. The 2003 Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act banned a

particular abortion procedure that was used both before and after what is considered viability. It was found to be constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2007."

The debate over partial-birth abortions opened the door for new considerations by the courts that paved the way for future rulings. West Virginia passed the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act in 1997, which helped to build the nation-wide case for the bill in conjunction with other state legislatures. The Mississippi case could give the conservative majority the opportunity to overturn Roe and Doe.

"West Virginia has always been on the cutting edge of promoting legislation that would save lives and provide the courts with the legal arguments to change the abortion jurisprudence," said Wanda Franz, president of West Virginians for Life. "We will continue to work to pass laws that will help to dismantle the Supreme Court's original abortion decisions."

## Contact Your Members of U.S. Congress

**Sen. Shelley Moore Capito** - (202) 224-6472  
172 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510  
email: [www.capito.senate.gov/contact/contact-shelley](mailto:www.capito.senate.gov/contact/contact-shelley)

**Sen. Joe Manchin III** - (202) 224-3954  
306 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510  
email: [senator@manchin.senate.gov](mailto:senator@manchin.senate.gov)

**Rep. David McKinley** (WV-1) - (202) 225-4172  
1232 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515  
email through website: <https://mckinley.house.gov/contact-me/email-me>

**Rep. Alex Mooney** (WV-2) - (202) 225-2711  
2366 Rayburn HOB, Washington, DC 20515  
email through website -  
<https://mooney.house.gov/contact/email>

**Rep. Carol Miller** (WV-3)  
(202) 225-3452  
1605 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515  
email through website - <https://miller.house.gov/zip-code-lookup?form=/contact/email-me>



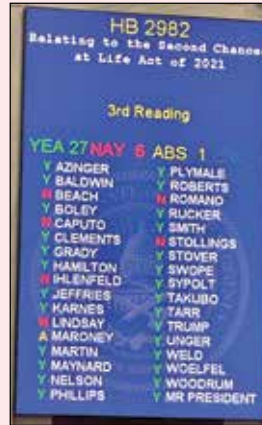
# 2ND CHANCES AT LIFE ACT OF 2021 (Abortion Pill Reversal) WILL TAKE EFFECT JULY 9, 2021



As the House readied to concur, Lead Sponsor Kayla Kessinger read the changes from the Senate.



Senate Lead Sponsor Patricia Rucker



The Senate vote came at 9:16 p.m. on April 10.



April 10 was the final day of the 60-day session. at 10:37 p.m. the House concurred with the Senate version and we could all breathe a sigh of relief!

By Mary Anne Buchanan

West Virginians for Life (WVFL) is pleased that Governor Jim Justice signed the Second Chances at Life Act of 2021 on April 28. The bill will require that a woman be informed that the effects of the chemical abortion pill Mifepristone can be reversed to save her baby if she changes her mind after taking it, but before taking the second pill.

There was no formal ceremony due to Covid.

The Second Chances at Life Act (HB 2982/SB 609) successfully passed in the Senate on April 10, the final day of the legislative session, by a bipartisan 27-6 vote. The 84-15 bipartisan House vote to concur came within 90 minutes of the Senate's action and, thankfully, before the session ended at midnight.

The American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists, a 7,000-member OB-GYN medical group, supports offering the Abortion Pill Reversal (APR) protocol to women who regret initiating the abortion pill process.

APR involves use of progesterone to reverse the effects of the Mifepristone, the first of two drugs that make up the chemical abortion technique. Progesterone has routinely been given to women during pregnancy for over 50 years and is, in fact, the standard of care to prevent miscarriages. Also, it has not been shown to cause any type of harm to women or their pre-born children.

"National Right to Life applauds West Virginians for Life, Governor Justice, and all of the pro-life legislators who worked tirelessly to ensure that women have a right to

be informed about the possibility of counteracting the effects of chemical abortions," said NRLC State Legislative Director Ingrid Duran. "These informed consent laws provide hope and a second chance at life should the mother choose it," Duran added, "but she must first know that the abortion pill reversal protocol exists, and that it has already saved over 2,000 babies and that her baby could be next."

The new bill, the latest in a series of pro-life success stories in West Virginia, will require (1) the girl/woman be informed that if she changes her mind, she may be able to save her baby with the help of medical professionals; and (2) it provides her the ability to act by informing her of the existence of a list of medical professionals versed in abortion pill reversal protocol on the

existing West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Women's Right to Know website.

West Virginia is the 12th state to pass abortion pill reversal legislation.

Montana's Governor Gianforte signed a similar bill, making Montana the 11th state to do so, while Indiana's Governor Holcomb signed that legislature's bill on April 29, only to have Planned Parenthood file a lawsuit against it.

According to Lead Sponsor Delegate Kayla Kessinger, the bill will be effective 90 days from passage on July 9.

"I am pleased that other states are joining this effort to give a second chance to those girls and women who change their minds. Women deserve full information when making this life changing decision," said Karen Cross, WVFL Political Liaison.



## Improving WV Advance Directives Must Wait Yet Another Year

By Mary H. Tillman, J.D., WVAEHC Legislative Coordinator

On Wednesday, March 24, 2021, SB 551 passed in the WV Senate unanimously. SB 551 would have amended the WV Code covering Living Wills and Medical Powers of Attorney. Lead Sponsor of SB 551 was Senator Mike Maroney. Cosponsors included Senators Rollan Roberts, Patricia Rucker, and Ron Stollings.

After successfully making it through the Senate Health and Human Resources Committee and passing on Third Reading, the bill went to the House Health Committee. The bill passed the House Health Committee by voice vote with an acceptable amendment by Delegate Barbara Fleischauer on March 31. It was never put on the House Judiciary Committee agenda, and thus never made it to the House floor for a vote.

This is the furthest the bill has gotten. Not one to be deterred, Legislative Coordinator Mary H. Tillman, J.D., and The WV Alliance for Ethical Health Care will try yet again in 2022.

In the meantime, we advise that the forms being promoted currently around the state NOT be used. Please go to [wvforlife.org](http://wvforlife.org) and use, instead, the "Will to Live" tailored to West Virginia state law, with its protective language.



WVFL President Wanda Franz, Ph.D. with SB 551 Lead Sponsor Senator Mike Maroney and WV Alliance for Ethical Health Care Legislative Director Mary H. Tillman, J.D.

# *Just a few of many reasons you really want to attend the 50th annual National Right to Life Convention!*

*By Jacki Ragan, NRL Convention Director*

2021 is an incredibly special year for the National Right to Life Convention. It will be our 50th convention (which was supposed to be celebrated last year but you know what happened to that). So, we are extra excited to bring it to you in 2021.

The convention will be housed at the Hilton Washington Dulles hotel in Herndon, VA and will officially begin on Friday, June 25. However, if you can make it, we encourage you to attend a special opening of the convention set for Thursday evening, June 24.

National Right to Life Conventions, Inc will host a showing of the play, “Viable” along with a dinner beginning at 6:30 pm. Tickets are available for \$35 each, and you do not have to be

registered for the convention to take advantage of this spectacular event. The play has received stunningly positive reviews from day one.

The convention officially opens on Friday morning, June 25 with a 7:30 am Prayer Breakfast. We are honored to have the Reverend Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, Executive Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C., as our featured speaker. Tickets are \$35 each.

On Friday evening, we are thrilled to feature Patricia Sandoval as our guest. She is an author, global speaker, and an EWTN show host. She has an amazing story of hope for this generation. Her testimony is as powerful and as raw as it gets, with her personal history of abortion and then being hired by Planned Parenthood. Her terror at what

happens behind the scenes led her to drugs and homelessness. But her story does not end there! The title of her session is “Relentless.”

Saturday morning, June 26, begins at 9 am with one of our favorite speakers, Wesley J. Smith, J.D., author, and one of the very few pro-life bioethicists. He has written numerous books, published hundreds of articles and opinion columns nationally and internationally on issues such as the importance of being human (human exceptionalism), assisted suicide, bioethics, the [im] morality of human cloning, legal ethics, medical ethics, and public affairs.

The title of his session is “There’s No Such Thing as ‘Just a Little’ Euthanasia.” You will not want to miss this, and we will all learn much from it.



Add to all of the above, four General Sessions, a closing Saturday night Banquet, and 54 workshops on all the topics of interest to pro-lifers. In addition there is the National Right to Life Teens convention, Pro-Life Exhibits, and Childcare so your children have a great time while you are equipping yourself to go spread the word and the knowledge you have learned in your own city and state.

And there will be still more. Stay tuned. To keep on top of what to expect, visit [www.nrlconvention.com](http://www.nrlconvention.com) for the latest information!

## **The Road to retaking the House in 2022**

*By Karen Cross, NRL Political Action Director*

*Editor’s note. Below are excerpts from the Karen Cross article which appears on page four of the May digital edition of National Right to Life News which arrived in inboxes around mid-May. Please take time to read the entire article and issue at [nrlc.org/uploads/NRLNews/May2021NRLNews.pdf](http://nrlc.org/uploads/NRLNews/May2021NRLNews.pdf) and share the link with your pro-life family and friends.*

Republicans and their pro-life leadership are just a handful of seats away from retaking the House of Representatives. Pro-abortion Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s grip on the majority is hanging by a thread.

Restoring pro-life control of the House will be crucial going forward under the presidency of pro-abortion Joe Biden. There are already several positive indicators that this goal is within reach.

### **Texas’s 6th Congressional District**

On May 1, voters in Texas’s 6th Congressional District went to the polls for the first round in a special election to fill the vacancy left after the passing of pro-life Rep. Ron Wright in February. Candidates from both parties competed in a single primary, and since no candidate received more than 50%, the top two finishers continue on to a runoff election to be set for a date later this year.

Coming out on top were two pro-life Republicans: Susan Wright, the widow of the deceased Representative and Jake Ellzey, a Texas state representative. In 2020, President Trump carried the 6th Congressional District by



just 3 points, putting the district in the sights of Democratic operatives hoping to flip the seat and cushion their slim House majority. Yet in a huge setback, Democrats were effectively shut out of the race when their top candidate, pro-abortion Jana Sanchez, landed in third place.

### **Democratic Retirements**

Another bad sign for Democrats heading into the midterms is the increasing number of high-profile retirements from within their ranks. One of the most notable is pro-abortion Rep. Cheri Bustos (IL-17), a former chair of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

In 2018, Bustos won reelection by 25 points. But in 2020, she found herself in an unexpectedly close race, ultimately winning by just 4 percentage points over a first-time candidate. Illinois will be losing one congressional seat because of redistricting, so it is possible the district would have become even more difficult for Bustos to hold.

Pro-abortion Congressman Filemon Vela (TX-34), the vice chair of the Democratic National

Committee, is also retiring after this term. He was first elected in 2012, capturing the seat by a 25-point margin. In 2020, Vela won by 14 points. The impact of redistricting may have weighed heavily on his decision.

Similarly in Florida, Republicans control the redistricting process. Pro-abortion Rep Charlie Crist (FL-13) entered the Florida governor’s race rather than seek reelection to Congress. It is also possible that Florida Reps. Val Demings (FL-10) and Stephanie Murphy (FL-7), both of whom are pro-abortion, may seek higher office. This would open up two other seats which could be more favorable for Republicans after redistricting.

In Arizona, pro-abortion Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ-2) will also step down after her current term ends, opening up a seat in what was one of 2020’s closest swing states. (Arizona determines the lines of their congressional districts through a nonpartisan commission.)

History is also on the side of the Republican Party heading into the midterms as the president’s party typically loses seats in midterm elections. Democrats lost large numbers of seats in both midterms under Obama, and the trend continued in 2018 when Republicans lost the House majority during the Trump presidency.

But even with these factors working in our favor, we each need to do all we can to help push our pro-life candidates over the top. Elections have consequences, and those consequences impact our ability to protect unborn children and their mothers from abortion.



# The teenager with the blonde hair, engaging smile, and extra chromosome



By Maria V. Gallagher, Legislative Director, Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation

The blonde-haired girl with the engaging smile and can-do attitude was in search of a miracle.

The teenager had an appointment for an MRI and neurosurgery seemed a certainty.

But Chloe Kondrich, a young woman who happens to have an extra chromosome, had faced adversity before and triumphed.

Recently Chloe's doctor reported that she had miraculously healed and that surgery would no longer be necessary.

The medical turn-around was just the latest victory for Chloe, who has become something of an international ambassador for people with Down syndrome. She has traveled widely, spoke at the United Nations twice, and had her photo displayed on the giant screen in Times Square five times.

Yet, she and her family live with the daily reality that children such as Chloe are truly endangered. The reason why is the extraordinarily high rate of abortion

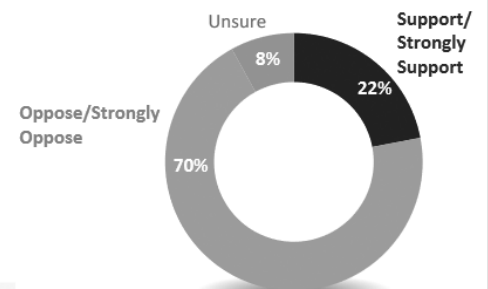
## Latest Marist Poll Regarding Down Syndrome Abortions

**70% of Americans oppose abortion if the child will be born with Down Syndrome.**



### Americans

Over half of those who identify as pro-choice (56%), oppose or strongly oppose abortion due to the expectation a child will be born with Down Syndrome.



*Please tell me if you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose abortion because the child will be born with Down Syndrome.*

	Support/ Strongly Support	Oppose/ Strongly Oppose	Unsure
Pro-Life	9%	88%	3%
Pro-Choice	35%	56%	10%
Democrat	31%	59%	10%
Republican	12%	82%	6%
Independent	24%	70%	6%

of preborn babies diagnosed with Down syndrome in the womb. Research indicates the vast majority of such children are aborted.

Chloe's father Kurt believes that many people simply do not realize the capabilities of children with Down syndrome. They also may lack knowledge about the resources that are available to young people with special needs.

To address this critical issue, the Kondrich's were influential in passing Chloe's Law, a Pennsylvania statute which offers positive information and support to families who receive a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome.

The family is now advocating for legislation in PA which would ban abortion for the sole reason of a Down syndrome diagnosis. They know that every child with Down syndrome deserves a chance at life—an opportunity to dance and dream and dare to push past boundaries and defy expectations. The kind of life Chloe lives every day.

## Ortiz will be Rose Dinner Keynote

Disability Rights Activist Melissa Ortiz will keynote the 23rd Annual Rose Dinner at Holiday in Morgantown on Thursday, November 11.

Whether she's sharing a memory, a laugh, or a perspective on the conflict in the Middle East, anyone who encounters Melisa Ortiz is quick to learn that she is truly one of a kind. Before being old enough to enter the first grade, Melissa had been both a poster child for a major charity and involved in a political campaign. While living with the challenge of a physical disability might give Ortiz license to feel like a victim, have a sense of entitlement, or minimally, be a bit grumpy, she is none of those things. She identifies as a "happy patriot" and is passionate about driving dialogue between conservatives and people living with disabilities. She is uniquely suited to bridge the gap between these two groups and is passionate about bringing them together to create solutions.

A native southerner who has spent periods of her life in Atlanta, Nashville, Jerusalem, and New York City, Ortiz has finally settled with husband Tony in the nation's capital. Her passion for politics and penchant

for communication has taken her from the Tennessee State Senate Clerk's office to the battle against ratification of the UN Treaty on Disabilities (CRPD). From the very beginning, Ortiz's family instilled in her the importance of public service. "I grew up in a family who believed in helping other people," Ortiz remembers. "We just saw people who were in need and we could reach out to do whatever we could." Ortiz has been involved in countless political campaigns. She worked on the team supporting Sen. Ted Cruz's Presidential bid and has worked to pass a Constitutional Amendment protecting the rights of all parents. She recently also finished a stint as a political appointee in the Trump Administration where she worked to promote the concept that people with disabilities need employment opportunities and a community framework that will allow them to live independently.

Mark your calendars now and look for registration in the fall issue!



*In Loving  
Memory of...*

**Olof & Delores  
Kennedy**

by Jane Macdonald



# The 2021 Legislative Session in Pictures...



*National Right to Life Political Director/West Virginians for Life Political Liaison Karen Cross with House Speaker Roger Hanshaw and Senate President Craig Blair*



*Senator Mike Maroney, Chair of Senate Health, posed with Dr. Wanda Franz and Karen Cross.*



*Senate Majority Leader Tom Takubo defended the Second Chances at Life Act ahead of the Senate floor vote.*

*Attorney General Patrick Morrisey and WVFL President Wanda Franz with Karen Cross in foreground*



*Karen Cross and Dr. Wanda Franz flank Delegate Moore Capito, who serves as the Judiciary Committee Chairman.*



*Delegate Chad Lovejoy did not mind stopping for a photo with Cross and Franz.*



*Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Charlie Trump with Karen*



*Senator Patrick Martin has been a solid pro-life ally and is seen here with Dr. Wanda Franz and Karen Cross.*



*Mary H. Tillman, J.D., worked hard on the WV Health Care Decisions Act and is seen with Delegates John Hott and Ruth Rowan.*



*Second Chances at Life Act Lead Sponsor Kayla Kessinger with Cross*



*Vice-Chair of Judiciary Senator Ryan Weld and Karen Cross*



*Pro-life Delegates Clay Riley and Ben Queen with Karen Cross and Wanda Franz, Ph.D.*



*WVFL Legislative Coordinator for WV Alliance for Ethical Health Care, Mary H. Tillman, J.D., with Delegate Jonathan Pinson and Dr. Wanda Franz*



*With the Capitol dome serving as the backdrop, pictured are Senator Mark Maynard and Karen Cross.*



# With Lobbyists Karen Cross, Mary Tillman, and Wanda Franz



*Pro-life Delegates Chris Phillips and Pat McGeehan are pictured with WV Alliance for Ethical Health Care's Mary H. Tillman, J.D.*



*L to R: Senators Dave Sypolt and Randy Smith with Karen Cross*



*Franz and Cross on both sides of freshman Delegate Heather Tully*



*Delegate Matt Rohrbach, Vice Chair of Health, with Karen Cross*

*Delegate Dana Ferrell paused long enough in the hall of the Capitol to get his photo taken with Karen.*



*Pro-life Delegate Guy Ward of Marion County with Karen Cross*



*Delegate Margitta Mazzocchi stopped in one of the Capitol stairwells to get a picture with Wanda Franz and Karen Cross.*



*Delegate Riley Keaton was pleased to be pictured with Karen Cross and even more pleased that the Second Chances at Life Act passed.*



*The last time that freshman Delegate Laura Kimble posed with Karen at the State Pro-Life Convention in October. Now, she is happy to claim her title and eager to get to work on pro-life legislation. Kimble was a 2nd Chances cosponsor.*



*Delegate Tony Paynter with Karen Cross*



*Delegate Todd Longanacre with Cross*



*Delegate Tom Fast is always happy to grab a snapshot with Dr. Wanda Franz and Karen Cross.*



*WVAFEHC Legislative Coordinator Mary Tillman explained SB 551 to Senator Joe Jeffries.*



*Senator Rupie Phillips, seen here with Karen Cross, cast his first pro-life vote as a senator for the Second Chances bill.*

## No Pro-Life Rally Day, but Petition Presentation Nonetheless

Due to Covid, the traditional Pro-Life Rally Day originally scheduled for March 15 was cancelled, but in its place, WVFL Political Liaison Karen Cross and President Wanda Franz visited the Capitol and presented the Abortion Pill Reversal petitions that had been coming in from around the state for months. They also took pictures and recorded videos.

If you have not seen the final video as produced by WVFL State Treasurer/Board Member Doug Joseph, you need to visit [wvforlife.org/legislation](http://wvforlife.org/legislation). Look for the graphic at right.





## Pro-Life Profile

by Patricia Johnson

Pamela Brush met her husband Joseph in 2006, and they were married later that year. They are members of Independent Bible Church in Martinsburg, WV and are active in the Children's Ministry and Child Evangelism Fellowship.



*Jefferson County  
Chapter Leader*  
**Pamela Brush**

In 2010, she retired from the Jefferson County School District after serving as a Speech Pathologist for 35 years.

While Pamela has always respected the sanctity of human life, she was unaware of the pro-life organizations West Virginians for Life and the National Right to Life Committee.

In 2012 she received a candidate survey from West Virginians for Life Political Action Committee (WVL-PAC). Her husband had responded to several petitions and had been placed on the West Virginians for Life (WVFL) mailing list. From the survey, she learned where WVFL stood on the issues. Not only was it obvious that her responses to the survey were pro-life, but her social media posts also revealed her pro-life principles.

In 2016 Pamela and Joseph were invited to a reorganization of the Berkeley County Chapter of WVFL. Pamela served as Vice President for three years, then as President for the last two years. She is also a newly elected member of the WVFL Board Member.

The Jefferson County Chapter strives not only to inform the public of loving alternatives to abortion, but also supports programs in their local community who protect life from conception to natural death.

Pamela believes the greatest challenge to the pro-life movement is that volunteers are sometimes perceived as telling others what to do with their lives, rather than being seen as trying to lovingly protect the next generation from repeating the same mistakes as previous generations when it comes to choosing life or death for their children.

WVFL thanks Pamela for her loving witness and involvement in the cause of life!

## WVFL Treasurer's Article

### LIFE Is Still Sacred, So We Still Fight

Soon my wife and I are to be blessed to attend the 2021 National Right to Life Convention. Along with members, volunteers, officers & staff of West Virginians For Life, we will join with pro-lifers from around the nation and even around the world. This will be our first time to attend. It's going to be an exciting event. I hope you can and will attend. You can get details and register at: [nrlconvention.com](http://nrlconvention.com)

One especially exciting aspect for this year is that West Virginians for Life has caught the attention of both other state affiliates and National Right to Life's leadership because we had pioneered an excellent, affordably-developed digital voter-guide "lookup" tool, which now helps us in every primary and general election. Several other state affiliates have already had us help them implement it, and the aim is that every state affiliate will do the same once they realize how doable, affordable, and needful it is. We're potentially going to be able to expound on it while at the event!

Furthermore, we're leveraging the same technology to create other helpful and affordable tools, such as a "grassroots contact your legislators" system, and a national one-stop shop (website) for both the aforementioned tools, that could/should work for any and all state affiliates!

West Virginians for Life plans to have a vendor booth at the convention this year. Stop by and say hello.

We are living in amazing times, yet terribly challenging times. LIFE is still sacred, so we still fight on.

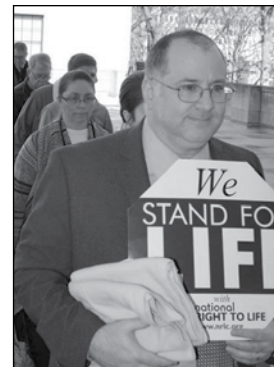
I encourage you to be an Esther or a Mordecai, knowing you've been brought to this hour "for such a time as this." Your pro-life support and vote are needed now more than ever.

Join us: [wvforlife.org/membership](http://wvforlife.org/membership)

Better yet, step up to **Rose Society Membership** while you're there!

Already a member? Give here: [wvforlife.org/donate](http://wvforlife.org/donate)

*With determination,  
Pastor Doug Joseph  
WVFL Treasurer*



## West Virginia Teens For Life

*Dear Teens for Life,*

Are we finally seeing the light at the end of the tunnel? I, for one, sure hope so, as this pandemic has been messing with my education and my social life. Can't help but be excited about masks going away before long.

Why should I be complaining though? At least I have my life, while around 2,200 lives a day are snuffed out in our country.

If you're looking for ways to get involved so you can make a difference, fellow peers, just contact me at [deelyma@aol.com](mailto:deelyma@aol.com) and together we can strategize as to what best we could do. Car washes are one such event. Summer is coming and the weather will be just right for at least one.

The July 10 Golf FORE Life is always a good time. I know first hand as I've helped pass out prizes to the winners and survey the golfers as they ate that scrumptious barbecue.

If your family vacation (hard to imagine one after last year) doesn't fall during the time of the tournament, let the office staff at 304-594-9845 know you are available to help. Better yet, contact me at the email address I gave you earlier.

Have an excellent summer!

*Your WV Teens for life President,  
Margaret Deely*



**WV Teens for Life  
President**  
Margaret Deely



# 2021 Calendar of Events

June 12 (Sat.)	<b>Board meeting, Clarksburg</b>
June 25-26 (Fri.-Sat.)	<b>National Right to Life Convention, Herndon, VA</b>
June 26 (Sat.)	<b>Upshur County Chapter Walk-for-Life, Buckhannon, WV ~ Contact for details: 304-472-3434</b>
July 10 (Sat.)	<b>9th Annual Golf FORE Life Tournament, Preston Country Club, Kingwood</b>
September 11 (Sat.)	<b>Board meeting, Clarksburg</b>
September 25 (Sat.)	<b>Monongalia County Chapter Walk-for-Life, Morgantown, WV ~ Contact for details: 304-599-0768</b>
October 9 (Sat.)	<b>State Pro-Life Convention, Trinity Assembly of God, Fairmont</b>
November 11 (Thurs.)	<b>23rd Annual Rose Dinner, Holiday Inn, Morgantown</b>
November 13 (Sat.)	<b>Board meeting, Clarksburg</b>

## WEST VIRGINIANS FOR LIFE T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE

You may place your orders at the state office at 304-594-9845 or send the order form with your payment to West Virginians for Life, 25 Canyon Road, Morgantown, WV 26508 or email [info@wvforlife.org](mailto:info@wvforlife.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of shirts & sizes:

\_\_\_\_ Small    \_\_\_\_ Medium    \_\_\_\_ Large

\_\_\_\_ XLarge    \_\_\_\_ 2XLarge    \_\_\_\_ 3XLarge

Cost per shirt: \$15.00 includes shipping    TOTAL COST: \_\_\_\_\_



red t-shirt with white lettering

YES! You can count on me to help save unborn children from abortion. Enclosed is my **Basic membership** contribution of \$35 ( ) or a **GOLD membership** contribution of \$50 ( ). One statewide pro-life t-shirt at no additional cost is an optional gift to those who pay the **GOLD membership**. Adult sizes are: S-M-L-XL-2XL-3XL. Indicate size here: \_\_\_\_\_

YES! You can count on me to help save unborn children from abortion with this donation.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to support the work of the Political Action Committee\* with a contribution of:

( ) \$10    ( ) \$25    ( ) \$50    ( ) \$100    ( ) \$500    ( ) \$1,000    ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to support the educational work of WVFL with an additional tax-deductible contribution of:

( ) \$10    ( ) \$25    ( ) \$50    ( ) \$100    ( ) \$500    ( ) \$1,000    ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to join the Rose Society with a monthly pledge of:

( ) \$10    ( ) \$25    ( ) \$50    ( ) \$100    ( ) \$500    ( ) \$1,000    ( ) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Rose Society members receive a monthly update from the President and do not receive other fundraising mailings or calls other than fundraising for the political action committee.)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation/Employer\* \_\_\_\_\_

Because in addition to educating, we are involved in trying to change the law, contributions to West Virginians for Life, Inc., are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. \*West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement."

\*A maximum donation of \$5,000 per Primary or General Election from an individual to the WVFL State PAC or \$5,000 per person per year to the WVFL Federal PAC is allowable. Please include occupation and employer when donating to the PAC. Corporate and church contributions to West Virginians for Life PAC are prohibited by law. Contributions to West Virginians for Life PAC are voluntary. Please disregard if you are a public employee or not a WVFL member.

**West Virginians for Life** • 25 Canyon Road, Morgantown, WV 26508  
(304) 594-9845 • [info@wvforlife.org](mailto:info@wvforlife.org) • [www.wvforlife.org](http://www.wvforlife.org)

## 9th Annual GOLF FORE LIFE TOURNAMENT

**Saturday, July 10th**

Registration & Lunch at Noon  
Putting Contest 1:00 pm • Tee Time 1:30 pm  
Preston Country Club, Kingwood, WV

Registration  
Form

There are several ways to participate in the Golf FORE Life Tournament, including playing in the tournament, sponsoring a hole, donating tournament prizes or gifts, or doing all of the above! Please complete this form and send back to us. Please contact us with any questions.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like it to appear on signage if sponsoring a hole)

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*City: \_\_\_\_\_ \*State: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\* = Required, if available

☐ **Individual Golfer** - Quantity: # \_\_\_\_\_ \$70 each (Golf registration includes box lunch, beverages, box dinner and one gift bag.)

☐ **Team Registration** - \$280 each (Golf registration includes box lunch, beverages, box dinner and one gift bag per team player.)

☐ **Platinum Sponsorship** - \$2,000 each (includes 1 foursome, box lunch and dinner for 4, a plaque, name on Banner and T-box)

☐ **Gold Sponsorship** - \$1,500 each (includes 1 foursome, box lunch and dinner for 4, name on Banner and T-box)

☐ **Silver Sponsorship** - \$1,000 each (includes 1 foursome and name on Banner)

☐ **Hole Sponsorship** - \$200 each (includes a sign on a hole - does not include golf registration)

Proper golf attire required - No sleeveless shirts or jeans permitted - Soft spikes mandatory

My foursome includes: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

If using check, please make payable to WVFL Ed Trust Fund. Mail, with this form, to WVFL, 25 Canyon Road, Morgantown, WV 26508. If by credit card, please complete the following:

☐ VISA    ☐ MASTERCARD    ☐ DISCOVER    ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

**Donations for tournament prize items and players' gifts are also needed - contact us for more details.**

All proceeds benefit the WVFL Educational Trust Fund,  
a 501(c)(3) organization.  
1-304-594-9845

Amounts are tax deductible less goods and services received.

West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement.

**PLEASE COPY AND DISTRIBUTE**

Registration forms are downloadable at [www.wvforlife.org/events](http://www.wvforlife.org/events)



*Change...for Life*

I will praise thee;  
for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
marvellous are thy works,  
and that my soul knoweth right well,  
thy substance was not hid from thee,  
when I was made in secret,  
and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.  
Psalm 139:14-15 KJV

**Give change. Pray for change. Be the change.**

It's that simple! Just fill a bottle with coins, cash or a check and return it to our church on  
Mother's Day, Sunday, May 9th.  
Your gift will help Way Life Ministries Polk County Chapter educate our community about  
God's precious gift of LIFE.


Way Life  
Polk County  
Virginia Life

BRIDGING POLK COUNTY CHAPTERS



pro-life  
morse code bracelet  
with sterling silver beads

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West Virginians  Life

KANAWHA-PUTNAM COUNTY CHAPTER

[illegible]

A group of people, including police officers, are holding a banner on a city street. The banner is white with black text and features a small red flower icon. The text on the banner reads "WEST VIRGINIANS FOR LIFE" and "MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER". The background shows a street with buildings and trees.

A group of people are on a float during a parade. A banner in the foreground reads "WEST MURROE WASHINGTONIANS FOR LIFE COUNTY CHAPTER". A man in a cowboy hat is playing a guitar. Other people are visible on the float, some playing instruments. The background shows a street with buildings and trees.

10





### Cabell County

On May 8th, the Cabell County Chapter had its most successful bake sale in over 20 years. Over 80 people visited their table at the Piggly Wiggly in Hamlin, making it their most successful ever. Thanks to Craig Johnson of Piggly Wiggly and to all those who donated time as volunteers or purchased baked goods, it was a huge success. Mr. Johnson is a strong supporter of Cabell County Right to Life. Chapter Leader George Wallace says that the idea is not to sell baked goods so much, but to engage with the public and after doing bake sales in these same spots repeatedly over the years, they become friends with those who shop. Shoppers see the dedication of the chapter volunteers and it speaks volumes as far as credibility.

### Clay County

Contact Chapter Leader Sheena Rapp-Leedy at emailsheena192001@gmail.com or 304-587-7073 to get involved.

### Doddridge County

Handmade orchids were passed out on Mother's Day weekend with tags attached inviting recipients to meet with the Doddridge County Chapter at Moonies Diner the fourth Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. Chapter Leader Chuck Northrop and wife Marge have continued to be a great help to the office staff in fixing various household breakdowns.

### Harrison County

A chapter member and WVFL Board member, Pastor Doug Joseph will present at the June National Right to Life Board Meeting. He will be demonstrating his digital voter-guide "lookup" tool that has been so valuable to WVFL and to a few other states. The hope is that many more state affiliates will utilize this system to get pro-life candidates elected. When pro-life candidates are elected, the better the chances of pro-life laws passing, so that lives are saved. Pastor Doug and wife LaDonna will be enjoying the national convention for the first time.

### Greenbrier County

There is exciting energy at monthly meetings where the focus has been on legislative news and actions. Delegates Bruce and Langanacre are present to give them insight from Charleston. The chapter has a new component to their meetings called *Need to Know*. Members share websites and may offer a brief description of pro-life news. The web addresses are shared on screen for future reference. It's their version of Pinterest. The Greenbrier chapter will be present at the Great American event on July 10 sponsored by the Republican Party.

### Kanawha/Putnam County

Chapter Leader Missy Ciccarello, who also serves on the WVFL Board, spoke at a Susan B. Anthony List gathering in Charleston in late February designed to point out Senator Manchin's pro-life stand on keeping the filibuster and how pivotal his votes will be on other pro-life legislation pending in the Senate. The chapter sponsored a baby bottle campaign to raise funds, which ended on Mother's Day weekend. Bottles had been dropped off at various pro-life churches where participants stuffed their bottles with change. Under the leadership of the ever-creative Missy Ciccarello, the Kanawha County Chapter has beautiful handmade bracelets with PROLIFE spelled out in Morse code that they are marketing as a fundraiser. Both Missy and the treasurer for the chapter, Kathy Crow, will be attending the national convention June 25-26.

### Lewis County

On May 8 the Lewis County Chapter had a public tabling event and gave out seeds attached to a pot with dirt. The slogan was *Choose life-Plant a seed-Watch it grow*. The group was well received regarding pro-life matters and the need to end abortion. Also, the WVSpeaks postcards pertaining to calling Joe Manchin were handed out. God was surely there as a lady stopped her vehicle, got out, and hugged them. Then her children proceeded to hug them and blessed them with a Mother's Day gift.

### Marion County

Marion County Chapter Leader Andy Sabak will be doing his annual workshop titled "List Development and Maintenance: Learning and Utilizing the Basics" at the National Right to Life Convention in Herndon, VA the end of June.

### Monongalia County

In March, Mon County President Wanda Franz gave a presentation on WVFL Legislative Agenda to the monthly video meeting of the Center Right Coalition. She also spoke at a Susan B. Anthony List gathering in Fairmont in late February designed to point out Senator Manchin's pro-life stand on keeping the filibuster and how critical his votes will be on other pro-life legislation.

The Precious Baby Photo Contest is taking place via the WV For Life – Monongalia County Chapter Facebook page through June 25. Baby pictures (sonogram – age 24 months as of June 25, 2021) can be submitted by email to info@wvforlife.org or by mail (a 4" x 6" photo) to: PB Photo Contest, P.O. Box 1479, Morgantown, WV, 25407-1479 by June 25. Votes are 25¢ each placed by mail. Precious Baby photos and a running tally of the votes can be found in the Photo Album on the *WV For Life*

- *Monongalia County* Facebook page.

The winner will ride in the car at the first parade to be held in Morgantown and all contestants are invited to walk with them.

Mon County Chapter will sponsor a hole and contribute a prize winning gift card to the 9th Annual Golf FORE Life Tournament on July 10 at Preston Country Club.

The Chapter was forced to cancel last year's annual Mother's Day Walk for Life, due to Covid It has been rescheduled for September 25. It includes a walk of 2.4 miles along main streets in Morgantown followed by a Rally with lunch and prizes awarded to the walkers.

### Monroe County

The Mother's Day signature ad in the *Monroe Watchman* was quite successful (see ad opposite page) as well as the chapter's first-time stab at an online auction. The latter raised over \$2,000. The May 8 Walk-for-Life was cold and windy but the rally portion was well attended. The special music was beautiful and many pastors spoke. Senator Jack Woodrum not only spoke stirring pro-life words, but carried the chapter banner for the length of the walk.

### Morgan County

Although the chapter is in need of a new leader, it is known for its effective sidewalk counseling two days a week in front of the abortuary in Hagerstown, Maryland, and that still continues. The number of unborn babies saved has now reached 557.

One of the pro-life counselors had it on her heart to set up a table with baby items, bibles, and miscellaneous literature to be available to help and to share her love of Jesus. In recent days it came to fruition. They are thankful for the many donations including the table (see picture). Many thanks to the nearby Hagerstown Area Pregnancy Clinic (HAPC) for finding a storage place for the mission table and baby items. One can't help but think that these items will convict the hearts of some abortion-minded women.

WDTF broadcasts several pro-life messages a day including a five-minute National Right to Life program called *Pro-Life Perspective*. The Knights of Columbus originate and record another set of pro-life messages created by Dick Byrne. Another Knight, Patrick Crosby is the pro-life station engineer.

The chapter continued its 8' X 12' pro-life billboard outside of Berkeley Springs on Route 522. Thanks to all who support this, especially the Knights of Columbus and the Holy Name Society.

### Nicholas County

The annual Jim Gilbert Memorial Golf Tournament is planned for July 24. Contact Chapter Leader Randy Meadows at 304-545-3060 for details.

### Ohio County

The chapter held its annual Walk-for-Life on May 1. At least 50 participated and they received good media reporting on their local TV station. Chapter Treasurer Julia Chaplin, who also serves on the WVFL Board, spoke at a Susan B. Anthony List gathering in Wheeling on February 26 designed to point out Senator Manchin's pro-life stand on keeping the filibuster and how pivotal his votes will be on other pro-life legislation pending in the Senate.

### Randolph County

Contact Chapter Leader Estep at elkinsfwc@gmail.com or call 304-614-7118 to get involved with the chapter.

### Raleigh County

The Raleigh County Chapter gave out love and information at the Womens' Expo in Beckley on June 4-5. They were excited to be able to do it! Chapter Leader Hilda Shorter, and perhaps others, will be attending the National Right to Life Convention June 25-26.

### Summers County

The Summers County Chapter ran a Mother's Day ad in the *Hinton News*. The ad showed a mother and young child with a caption saying, "Defending Life from Conception to Natural Death, Happy Mother's Day." A special thank you to WVFL Graphic Designer Cheryl Carr who did a great job of creating the ad.

### Upshur County

The chapter's June 26 Walk-for-Life will begin at Jawbone Park in Buckhannon. Contact Chapter Leader Maureen Hull at 304-472-3434 to find out all the details.

### Wayne County

A huge yard sale was held on Saturday, May 22, to raise funds for the chapter. Wayne County pro-lifers should contact Chapter Leader Tranae Mathis at 304-417-1925 to get involved.

### Wood County

Email Jaime Bigley at mrsjbig@gmail.com or call 304-494-0333 to get involved.

### WV Teens for Life

President Margaret Deely invites teens to contact her at deelyma@aol.com.

### WVU Mountaineers for Life

Students gathered in Feb. for a rally in Fairmont in front of Sen. Manchin's office imploring him NOT to vote for Xavier Becerra for HHS Secretary. They plan to participate in the national Life Chain on October 3. Call 412-737-6486 to get involved.



7th Annual  
**GOLF FORE  
LIFE**  
TOURNAMENT

**Saturday, July 10, 2021**  
Preston Country Club, Kingwood, WV

Registration/Box Lunch at Noon  
Putting Contest 1:00 pm  
Tee Time 1:30 pm  
Box Dinner/Informal  
Awards Ceremony 6:00 pm

There are several ways to participate in the Golf FORE Life! Tournament, from playing in the tournament, sponsoring a hole, donating tournament prizes or gifts, or doing all of the above! Please complete the registration form on page 9 and return to us or register online.

**West Virginians for Life**

25 Canyon Road  
Morgantown, WV 26508

*Change Service Requested*

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
West Virginians for Life, Inc.

Summer 2021

**Life**



**Matters**

Vol. 43, Number 2

The presentation of the Abortion Pill Reversal petitions took place in the House Chamber on March 16, just one day after the cancelled (due to Covid) **Pro-Life Rally Day** event. Pictured are Senate President Craig Blair, WVFL President Wanda Franz, Ph.D., and House Speaker Roger Hanshaw. You may watch the presentation at [wvforlife.org/legislation/abortion](http://wvforlife.org/legislation/abortion) in a wonderful 3:45 minute video of the “think outside the box” day.

**West Virginians for Life**

**Find your July 10 Golf FORE Life Registration form on page 9.**



WV Legislative Photography, Photo by Will Price