



# Diocese of Buffalo

*Office of Pro-Life Activities*

Dear Respect Life Coordinators and Friends of the Pro Life Movement,

Ed Mechmann, Director of Public Policy of the Archdiocese of New York and my counterpart, has an important message about a tragic and timely development with the Abortion Expansion Act in the State of New York, that I wish to share with you. We ask that your prayers be lifted up for this very particular intention: the removal of all abortion expansion items in the budget.

Blessings,  
*Cheryl Calire, Director*  
Office of Pro-Life Activities

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**In the Governor's budget is a version of the Abortion Expansion Plan** that he previously pushed as part of his "Women's Equality Act".

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This proposal would:

- Encourage more late-term abortions – by **removing our current law's limit on abortions after 24 weeks**.
- **Permit non-doctors to do abortions** – a license to perform abortions would be entirely within the discretion of State bureaucrats. In fact, anyone could do an abortion and the only penalty they might face is a prosecution for practicing medicine without a license.
- **Eliminate all criminal penalties for abortions** – so even if an abortion was involuntary or coerced, or if the unborn child was targeted for an act of violence, it could not be prosecuted.
- Endanger children even after birth – by **eliminating a law that requires that a baby born alive after an abortion be given adequate health care**. Instead, this bill would allow abortionists to leave those children to die of neglect and starvation.

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This scheme by the Governor is particularly dangerous because by law a budget must be passed by April 1.

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The only way to remove an item from the Governor's proposed budget bill is to put it on the table for negotiations between him and the leaders of the Assembly and Senate – and since three of those people are ardently “pro-choice”, the task will be truly daunting.

We are asking people to **contact their Senators and urge them to oppose the budget bill if the abortion expansion proposal is in it.**

We are particularly asking those who are represented by a Republican in the State Senate to urge their Senator to speak to Senator Flanagan, the Majority Leader, to insist that this provision be stripped from the final budget bill.

Here are more resources on this important and timely development:

- [An Action Alert from the New York State Catholic Conference](#)
- [The Catholic Conference's memo in opposition to the bill](#) in printable PDF version.
- For more about the bill visit our <https://www.buffalodiocese.org/pro-life>
- To keep up-to-date on developments on this and other crucial issues, please “Join” and “Follow” our [Diocese of Buffalo Office of Pro-Life Activities](#)

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**Time is short so we must take action immediately.**

Please share this email with your pastor, your fellow parishioners and others.

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Sincerely,



Cheryl M. Calire  
**Director of Pro-Life Activities**  
Diocese of Buffalo

2/16/18