



Instructions: It is very important to read the pulpit announcement at every Mass on Take Action Sunday. If possible, the Pastor, Parish Pro-Life Coordinator, or a designate, should carry out this task. A member of your parish who works in healthcare, such a physician, or nurse would also be an excellent messenger given the nature of this legislation. Please adapt the wording at the end of the announcement to fit the arrangements in your parish.

PULPIT ANNOUNCEMENT

(Introduce yourself if appropriate.) Today, in response to a call to action from the US Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, we are inviting everyone to urge Congress to pass the Conscience Protection Act. This can be quickly and easily done through Human Life Action's website.

Human Life Action is a service of NCHLA, which was founded in 1974 by the bishops and works to support the pro-life legislative agenda of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, largely through grassroots organization, education and activation. As Catholics, we have a duty to be engaged and responsible citizens and to enter into the public square with the heart of Christ.

The need for our engagement in the public policy process has grown in recent years as violations of conscience rights are on the rise, particularly against individuals and institutional health care providers who object to abortion. Consider the case of Cathy DeCarlo, a nurse who was threatened with firing *and the loss of her license* unless she assisted with a late-term abortion against her pro-life beliefs and then found she had no right to go to court to keep this from happening to others. The Conscience Protection Act will protect people like Cathy and all of us who don't want to be forced to pay for or participate in or provide coverage for abortions. It will help ensure that federal conscience protections on abortion are enforced by allowing victims of discrimination to defend their own rights in court.

This is why the bishops are calling us to take action today. Won't you please take a moment as you leave Mass to let Congress know what you expect? It will not require much time from you, but the impact of your voice, when joined with so many others from across the nation, will be enormous. Please don't miss this opportunity to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the legislative process.

(Adjust this last part of the message according to your parish situation)

There are volunteers in the back and at the exits to assist everyone in sending a digital message to your elected federal representatives. [If doing paper sign-up: Please pause a moment as you exit to add your name and email to the Human Life Action Alert list.] Additional information can be found in this week's bulletin and in the informational fliers at the exits. Thank you for your generosity in support of life and religious liberty! Together we will be heard.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Week Before:

Coming Next Week: Human Life Action presents Take Action Sunday! Next Sunday our parish will conduct a Take Action Sunday on important pro-life legislation: The Conscience Protection Act. You will have an opportunity to respond to a federal legislative action alert to protect human life and freedom of conscience. Please take action in support of life! You can do so at any time by visiting HumanLifeAction.org.

On the Day of the Event:

Today: Please stop on your way out of church to take action on important pro-life legislation. Urge Congress to enact the Conscience Protection Act. If you cannot stay a moment, you can send your message to Congress at a more convenient time by visiting HumanLifeAction.org. Together we will be heard!