



## DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

February 8, 2021

Via email only

The Hon. Ned Gordon, Chair  
And Members of the House Judiciary Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: HB 434 (prohibiting the use of public funds for abortions)**

Dear Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

As the Director of the Office of Public Policy of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, and on behalf of Bishop Peter Libasci, I write **in support of HB 434**.

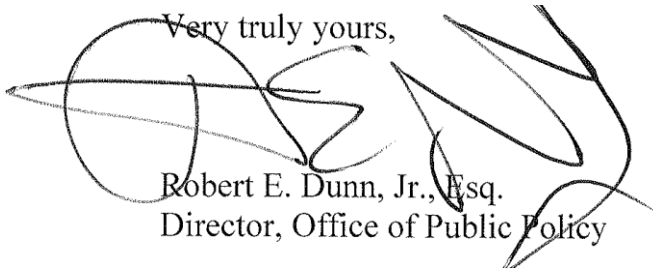
Although abortion is probably the issue that most sharply divides the body politic in this country today, the use of public funds to pay for abortions would mean that New Hampshire citizens who believe to their core that abortion is morally wrong would, in effect, be compelled to pay for abortions through their tax dollars.

The gravity of that problem is all the greater because New Hampshire places almost no restrictions on abortion. Thus, public funding for abortions would encompass all the types of abortions that are permissible under New Hampshire law, including late term abortions, sex-selective abortions, and abortions carried out for genetic purposes. (As you may recall, a bill to ban the latter two types of abortions in New Hampshire was killed last year.)

I respectfully ask the Committee to consider the deeply held conscience rights of the manifold numbers of New Hampshire citizens who oppose abortion, and recommend that this bill ought to pass.

Thank you for your kind consideration of our comments.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Dunn, Jr., Esq.  
Director, Office of Public Policy