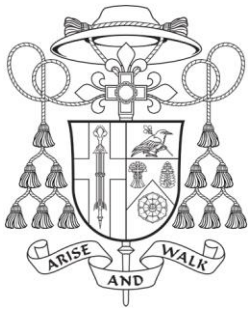


Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci, Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Manchester, sent the following letter to each member of the New Hampshire Executive Council concerning its August 5, 2015 agenda.



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP  
DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

August 4, 2015

Dear Councilor:

As the Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester, I write to urge you to vote no on the proposed agreements between the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal & Child Health Section, Family Planning Program and several vendors, including Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

It is appropriate that this question comes before the Council weeks after the shocking revelations that Planned Parenthood traffics in fetal tissue and organs from abortions and alters abortion methods not for any reason related to women's health but to obtain more "intact" organs. Planned Parenthood's conduct is an affront to women and goes far beyond what Pope Francis has condemned as our modern "Throwaway Culture." This unspeakable practice ignores the dignity of the unwanted, purposely destroyed child.

We come to this issue from a perspective rooted in our experiences. Through the work of Catholic Charities New Hampshire and the generous donations of the Catholic faithful, the Catholic Church in the Granite State has helped pregnant women find life-affirming alternatives to abortion. In addition, our Catholic hospitals and healthcare providers provide women with affordable, quality health care that respects the sanctity of all human life.

I urge you to vote no on the Requested Action as proposed so women may obtain their health care from providers that do not promote abortion.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Peter A. Libasci  
Bishop of Manchester