

Religious Freedom Coalition

717 Second Street NE V Washington, DC 20002
(202) 543-0300 Fax (202) 543-8447

***** NEWS RELEASE *****

Religious Freedom Coalition strongly favors passage of The Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act

January 26, 2005 - WASHINGTON, DC

The Religious Freedom Coalition strongly support the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act (HR 356) sponsored by Congressman Chris Smith (R-NJ) and the Senate version (S51) sponsored by Senator Sam Brownback (R-KS). This legislation will advance the cause of truth and honesty requiring women seeking abortions be told the truth about new medical evidence showing that as early as 20 weeks of age, an unborn child can indeed feel pain.

A woman making the choice of whether to have an abortion is making a life or death decision in regards to her unborn child that will also have a long lasting impact on her own life. Surely she should have all the facts available, including the medical findings that unborn children in the womb do feel pain. We know from empirical evidence that the psychological pain of guilt is a problem for many women who have had abortions. It cannot be right to hide from women the facts about fetal perception of pain, only to have them find out afterward that their unborn children did endure real pain during the abortion procedure.

An important provision of this bill is that women must be informed that they can choose the option of giving anesthesia to their unborn children of twenty weeks of age or more, during an abortion procedure. It is unconscionable that so many women now are kept ignorant of the fact that anesthesia is available to ease the suffering of their babies.

There will certainly be opposition to this bill from abortion proponents. But what could be the logical reason for such opposition? Why would anyone want unborn babies to suffer pain when it could be prevented? The only obvious reason for opposition is that an ideological "commitment" to abortion is more important than women's well being and the prevention of pain in their unborn children.

The Religious Freedom Coalition strongly supports this proposed legislation, and we believe it deserves to have many.

Media Contact:
Peggy Birchfield, Executive Director
Phone: (202) 543-0300

National Headquarters: 906 Lafayette Blvd., Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(540) 370-4200 Fax (540) 370-4535 Internet: www.rfcnet.org