



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON · DIOCESE OF RICHMOND  
Representing the Virginia Catholic Bishops in Public Policy Matters

March 29, 2016

## Statement by Virginia Catholic Conference on Governor's Veto of Bill Defunding Planned Parenthood

Today, Gov. Terry McAuliffe ventured to an abortion center in Richmond and vetoed HB 1090, which would have redirected state tax dollars away from Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry, and toward community health centers that provide real, comprehensive health care to women and their families.

At the ceremony at Planned Parenthood, whose affiliates abort more children than any other abortion business in the country, Gov. McAuliffe said he was “proud” to “smack down” the legislation, introduced by Del. Ben Cline, R-Amherst County.

The Virginia Catholic Conference upholds the timeless truth that every human being, born and unborn, has an equal right to life. The Conference finds Gov. McAuliffe’s “pride” in protecting an organization that destroys life and harms many women and their families deeply offensive and outrageous. We will continue to fight for the day when Virginia law protects all human life, at every stage of development, from conception until natural death.

The Conference is continuing to monitor other crucial legislation awaiting the Governor’s action, and will comment further on today’s decision and others at the appropriate time. The Virginia Catholic Conference represents the public policy interests of Virginia’s Catholic bishops and their dioceses.

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