



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

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VICTORY ALERT! ABORTION CLINIC REGULATIONS PASSED!

Virginia Board of Health Votes to Permanently Implement Abortion Facility Regulations

The Virginia Catholic Conference expressed gratitude to the Virginia Board of Health today after it voted to implement permanent health and safety regulations on abortion facilities. This hard-fought victory was two years in the making after legislation was passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor McDonnell, and after emergency temporary regulations were then promulgated by the Board of Health.

“Safety standards and commonsense prevailed today,” said Associate Director Virginia Podboy. “The abortion industry in the Commonwealth has proven unable to self-regulate. The countless health violations that turned up in recent inspections speak volumes. Virginia women deserve clean, sanitary facilities that are staffed with trained individuals and prepared with life-saving equipment.”

Abortion is not healthcare because it ends lives instead of healing them. However, since abortion operates under the guise of healthcare in this country, the abortion industry must be properly regulated for the safety of Virginia women. The Commonwealth’s strong permanent regulations will now prevent abortion facilities from subjecting women to unsanitary conditions, including physicians performing abortions with unwashed hands or blood splattered on examination tables and medical trays. No longer will inadequate building standards prevent emergency medical technicians from retrieving a woman in need of emergency care from inside the facilities to transport her to a hospital emergency room.

“These regulations have taken two years to execute and the Virginia Catholic Conference is grateful to the thousands of pro-life Virginians who advocated persistently for strong permanent regulations, and most especially to the Virginia Board of Health for completing the final stage to implement them,” Podboy said.

[The Virginia Catholic Conference](#) is the public policy agency of Virginia’s bishops and their two dioceses.

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