

SENATE JUDICIARY

EXHIBIT NO. 4

DATE 2/20/09

FILE NO. SJ 27

**Testimony for SJ 27, "Oppose federal Freedom of Choice Act": Sponsor Joe Balyeat
Senate Judiciary Committee, Friday 20, 2009**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee: For the record my name is Moe Wosepka, I currently serve as Executive Director of the Montana Catholic Conference. The Montana Catholic Conference is the public policy arm for the two Catholic Bishops in Montana.

I appear before the committee today to support SJ 27, which opposes the federal Freedom of Choice Act. Catholic Church teaching espouses the respect of all human life from conception to natural death. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, USCCB, joined together at their annual meeting last November in Baltimore to oppose the federal freedom of choice act. The Bishops issued a statement through conference president Cardinal Francis George at that meeting. They also called for a nationwide post card campaign in every Diocese and Parish throughout the United States. That campaign is currently underway in over 100 parishes in Montana this week. The postcards will be sent to our Senators Baucus, and Testor as well as Congressman Rehberg. The postcard reads:

"At this time of serious national challenges, Americans should unite to serve the good of all, born and unborn. The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA), the most radical and divisive pro-abortion bill ever introduced in Congress, would create a "fundamental right" to abortion that government could not limit but would have to support. FOCA would overturn many existing widely supported policies, including laws protecting parental involvement and conscience rights and those preventing partial-birth abortion and taxpayer funding of abortion.

Please oppose FOCA or any similar measure, and retain laws against federal funding and promotion of abortion. As your constituent, I would appreciate a written response telling me how you would vote on these matters."

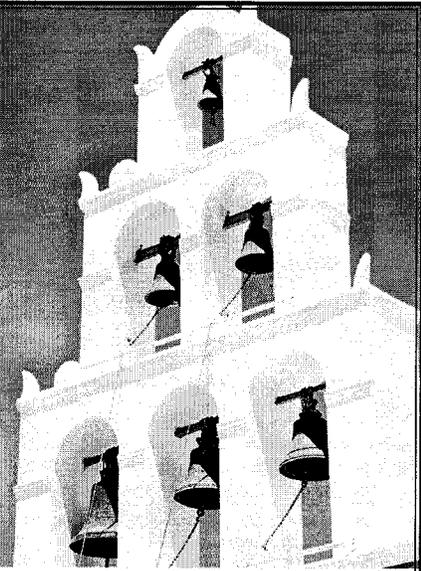
The post card campaign nationwide is expected to generate over 10,000,000 post cards.

The timing of this joint resolution is appropriate. We stand in support of SJ 27

Thank you.

Contact information: Moe Wosepka, Executive Director, Montana Catholic Conference, 1301 11th Ave, Helena, Mt. 59601: phone 442-5761

OUR VOICE IS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER.



A new, very serious threat to human life has arisen:
The Freedom of Choice Act.

FOCA eliminates

regulations that protect women from
unsafe abortion clinics

FOCA forces

taxpayers to fund abortions

FOCA requires

all states to allow "partial birth" and
other late-term abortions

FOCA subjects

women to abortions by nonphysicians

FOCA violates

the conscience rights of nurses, doctors,
and hospitals

FOCA strips

parents of their right to be involved in
their minor daughters' abortion decision

The Catholic bishops of the United States have unanimously called us to prayer and action to prevent passage of the radical "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) and to oppose other attempts to overturn existing pro-life laws and policies. This year, our voices are needed more than ever.

Pro-abortion groups and their allies in Congress are promoting a radical bill called the "Freedom of Choice Act." If this extreme measure is enacted, widely supported and constitutionally sound abortion regulations will be knocked down nationwide.

If passed into law, FOCA will impose upon the entire country an abortion regime far worse than anything brought on by *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion. And the current level of 1.1 million abortions a year will go up, not down.

Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard to contact the offices of your Representative and two Senators: 202.224.3121.

Urge them to oppose FOCA.

For more resources, see www.nchl.org.

TELL CONGRESS:
Please pledge now to oppose FOCA!



United States Conference
of Catholic Bishops
Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
www.usccb.org/prolife/issues/abortion

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