

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 20

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy should be permanently established.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 17, 2019

Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. ERNST, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SASSE, Mr. COTTON, Mr. RISCH, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy should be permanently established.

Whereas section 104(f) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151b(f)) (commonly referred to as the “Helms amendment”) states that no foreign assistance funds may be used to pay for the performance of abortion as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions;

Whereas section 518 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2006

(Public Law 109–102; 119 Stat. 2202) (commonly referred to as the “Siljander Amendment”) states that no foreign assistance funds may be used to lobby for or against abortion;

Whereas, in 1984, President Ronald Reagan established the “Mexico City Policy,” which prohibits foreign aid for family planning purposes from being given to foreign nongovernmental organizations that perform abortions or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning, regardless of the source of funding;

Whereas, upon assuming office on January 20, 1989, President George H.W. Bush continued to enforce the Mexico City Policy as established by President Reagan;

Whereas the Mexico City Policy was reestablished on January 22, 2001, by President George W. Bush;

Whereas, on January 23, 2009, President Barack Obama rescinded the Mexico City Policy;

Whereas, on January 23, 2017, President Donald J. Trump reestablished the Mexico City Policy and directed the Secretary of State to apply the policy to all Federal global health assistance; and

Whereas the Department of State modernized the Mexico City Policy on May 15, 2017, renamed “Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance,” to cover all health assistance provided abroad by a Federal agency, including the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of State, and the Department of Defense: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that Con-
- 2 gress should expeditiously consider statutory changes that

- 1 permanently codify the Protecting Life in Global Health
- 2 Assistance policy.

