

Memorandum

To: Indiana Legislative Candidates
From: Mike Fichter, Chairman
Date: August 28, 2008
Re: Indiana Right to Life Political Action Committee Policy

I am writing to inform you of the following policy which has been formally adopted by the Indiana Right to Life Political Action Committee:

Indiana Right to Life PAC will not endorse any Democratic candidates for the Indiana House in the 2008 election cycle.

This policy adheres to our PAC endorsement criteria which states that a candidate's party leadership, and that leadership's expected impact on legislation, is to be considered when making endorsements. As you are aware, every single bill publicly supported by Indiana Right to Life since the passage of 1997's partial-birth abortion ban has been killed in the Indiana House under Democratic control, including the pro-life legislation passed by the Indiana Senate in each of the last two sessions. This stands in stark contrast to 2005 and 2006 when the House under the leadership of Speaker Brian Bosma successfully passed six bills publicly supported by Indiana Right to Life.

For years we have tried our best to work with Democratic leadership in the House to secure straight up-or-down votes on legislation backed by Indiana Right to Life. Each year is the same: our legislation is assigned to a committee chairperson who kills the legislation by not allowing a vote. It has been made forcefully clear to us that if we wish to pass legislation that will save hundreds if not thousands of lives, we must have a Republican-controlled House.

We believe that legislative efforts to protect the lives of unborn children should be bipartisan in nature. However, our experience has shown that the actions of party leadership will always trump the best intentions of bipartisanship.

We know that there are many pro-life Democrats who regret the actions taken in the Indiana House by current Democratic leadership and we look forward to the day when we can work with pro-life Democrats under new party leadership to secure passage of legislation that will help save the lives of unborn children and provide women with positive alternatives to abortion.