

Congressman King's amendment prevents Ag Bill funds from being spent on abortion drug RU-486 "for any purpose"

Washington D.C.- Congressman Steve King (R-IA) released the following statement after the House of Representatives voted 240-176 to pass an amendment he introduced which prevents any funds within HR 2112, the Agriculture Appropriations bill, from being spent on the abortion drug RU-486 "for any purpose," including use in "telemed abortions." Telemed abortions involve using videoconferencing technology to dispense mifepristone, the abortion drug commonly known as RU-486, to patients without having a doctor present. Abortion providers like Planned Parenthood are the frequent recipient of federal telemedicine grants, and King's amendment makes it clear that telemedicine grants contained within the agriculture bill cannot be used to facilitate the use of RU-486 in "telemed abortions." This issue is of particular importance in Iowa, as the "telemed abortion" technique was developed by the Des Moines-based abortion provider "Planned Parenthood of the Heartland", and reports indicate that 1,900 chemical abortions using this technology have been performed in Iowa alone.

Video: Watch Congressman King debate his pro-life amendment to the Agriculture Appropriations bill. King's amendment passed the House today on a vote of 240-176.

"I applaud the House of Representatives for passing my important pro-life amendment today," said King. "American taxpayers should not be asked to subsidize abortions, and federal telemedicine grants should not be used to enable abortion providers like Planned Parenthood to dispense the RU-486 abortion drug. My amendment ensures that no telemedicine grant money in the Agriculture Appropriations bill will be spent for any purpose that enables abortionists to perform 'telemed abortions.' Cutting off this source of funding for this procedure will save the lives of women and unborn babies."

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