



# ARCHDIOCESE OF PORTLAND IN OREGON

September 19, 2017

Dear Brother Priests,

Last April, I wrote asking for your support to get the ***Stop Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act*** on the next general election ballot. With the recent passage of Oregon House Bill 3391 and its subsequent signing into law by Governor Brown, the need for action has become even more urgent. HB 3391 requires that all health insurance companies in Oregon (except one) offer unrestricted abortions at zero “out of pocket” cost to those insured. HB 3391 also makes provision for state funds to be used to pay for abortions.

In response to this new law, which took effect on August 15, I am asking your assistance by supporting the Knights of Columbus, Oregon Life United, and other groups or individuals who wish to organize and conduct another (or a first-time) signature gathering effort at your parish during the last two weeks of September or in October. Please allow signature gathering after Masses, and please express your support from the pulpit for this signature petition drive.

All Oregonians opposed to House Bill 3391, and those who do not want taxpayer money used to pay for abortions, should lend their support to the Stop Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act. This measure needs 117,000 signatures to qualify as an initiative for the 2018 election ballot.

You can visit [www.StopTheFunding.org](http://www.StopTheFunding.org) to sign the petition and find out how you can help reverse some of the harmful effects of the current legislation that implements and expands taxpayer funding for abortion. Information and petition sheets can also be provided by your Parish Knights of Columbus Council or by contacting Oregon Life United at 541.286.3039 or Knights of Columbus State Secretary Ron Boyce at 503.730.1986. *Persons who have already signed the petition, should not sign again as this can nullify signatures already gathered.*

I am confident that with your help and prayers, we as a Catholic Community can make this happen for Oregon.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Alexander K. Sample  
Archbishop of Portland in Oregon