

THE GOVERNOR'S RECORD ON LIFE: TIM WALZ



“When bills regarding a woman’s right to choose are sent to the governor’s desk here in Minnesota, it’s up to the person who holds that office to decide the fate of abortion rights and access in our state. As long as I have the honor of holding this office, I will not sign laws that restrict access to abortions in our state. ... I’ll fight tooth and nail to protect abortion rights and access.” - May 4, 2022, Twitter (@Tim_Walz)

“My record is so pro-choice, Nancy Pelosi asked me if I should tone it down.” - June 2, 2018, DFL state convention

Walz’s Record in Congress

■ During Walz’s time in Congress, he repeatedly voted against protection for unborn children after 20 weeks, when they can experience excruciating pain while being killed, and repeatedly voted in favor of taxpayer funding of elective abortions. Walz also co-sponsored a bill that would have invalidated nearly all state and federal limits on abortion.

■ Walz repeatedly opposed legislation to ensure ordinary medical care for newborn babies who survive abortion. The bill—which did not affect women’s health care or access to abortion—would have required that babies born alive after abortion be treated with “the same degree” of care as other babies born at the same age, rather than neglected or killed.

Walz’s Record as Governor

■ At a debate in 2018, Walz was asked if, as governor, he would “sign or allow any bills to become law that would put new restrictions on abortion.” He answered **“absolutely not” and called himself a “vocal opponent of allowing anything like that to even start to permeate our discussion because the expansion of those [abortion] services is the direction we should be going.”** (Aug. 10, 2018, MPR News Debate)

■ After taking office in 2019, Walz proposed a cut in funding for the Positive Alternatives Act, which provides grants to programs that offer practical support to pregnant and newly parenting women.

■ As the COVID-19 pandemic began in early

2020, Walz temporarily suspended all elective procedures in the state in order to conserve medical resources and reduce transmission of the virus—but his administration chose to exempt elective abortion. While medical procedures were put on hold, the destruction of unborn children was allowed to continue.

■ In 2021, media outlets reported that the Walz administration gave nearly **\$100,000 of COVID-19 relief money to a non-profit specializing in “abortion doulas.”**

Walz’s Commitment: Unlimited Abortion

■ In May 2022, Walz called on Congress to pass a sweeping bill enshrining abortion-until-birth in federal law and eliminating almost all existing protections for unborn children across the country. The so-called “Women’s Health Protection Act” would nullify Minnesota’s parental notification and informed consent laws, as well as Minnesota’s law limiting the performance of abortion to licensed physicians.

■ In response to the possibility of the Supreme Court overturning *Roe v. Wade* and allowing the American people to decide their own abortion laws, Walz said: **“Let me make something abundantly clear for all Minnesotans. ... There will never be an abortion ban under my watch. The right to an abortion will be respected in Minnesota as long as I am in office.”** (May 2, 2022, Twitter)