

By: Senator(s) Chism

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36

1 A RESOLUTION CALLING UPON THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS
2 HOUSE BILL H.R. 589 AND SENATE BILL S. 223 REPEALING THE "FACE"
3 ACT AND COMMENDING PRESIDENT TRUMP FOR ISSUING, ON JANUARY 23,
4 2025, PRESIDENTIAL PARDONS TO 23 PRO-LIFE AMERICANS UNJUSTLY
5 CONVICTED THEREUNDER.

6 WHEREAS, the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE)
7 Act, 18 U.S.C. § 248, was enacted by the United States Congress
8 and signed into law by President Bill Clinton in 1994 to prohibit
9 individuals from interfering with access to so-called
10 "reproductive health services," which include both abortion
11 facilities and pregnancy resource centers; and

12 WHEREAS, first-time FACE Act offenders face a penalty of up
13 to 12 months in jail and a \$15,000.00 fine, and repeat offenders
14 can receive up to three years of jail time and \$25,000.00 in
15 fines; and

16 WHEREAS, according to *World* magazine, since a draft Supreme
17 Court opinion overturning *Roe v. Wade* was leaked in the *Dobbs v.*
18 *Jackson Women's Health Center* case in early May 2022, "The DOJ
19 began pairing standard FACE Act indictments with charges of



'conspiracy against rights,'" which carries penalties of up to a "10-year prison sentence and its own fines"; and

WHEREAS, according to a report updated November 12, 2024, by Catholic Vote, since the Dobbs' leak at least ninety-five (95) pregnancy resource centers and pro-life groups have been attacked and vandalized; and

WHEREAS, according to the Family Research Council, in the year following that leak, at least thirty-eight (38) "churches across the country have been firebombed, smashed, ransacked or vandalized with pro-abortion graffiti and threatening messages," and there were at least twenty-three (23) "'other incidents' in which pro-abortion protesters were arrested or pro-life individuals were physically attacked;" and

WHEREAS, according to an October 20, 2022, Fox News Digital report, although radical left wing pro-abortion group Jane's Revenge had claimed credit for more than a dozen attacks on churches or pregnancy resource centers, "not a single member of the underground group has been arrested"; and

WHEREAS, according to a May 12, 2022, report by the *Wisconsin State Journal*, Jane's Revenge proclaimed it was at "war" with pro-life groups, demanded "the disbanding of all anti-choice establishments" and said the first attack was "only a warning"; and

WHEREAS, despite the numerous serious attacks and threats upon the pro-life community, according to Catholic Vote's data



45 updated November 11, 2024, there have been only five (5) reported
46 arrests in connection with the attacks on the pro-life community;
47 and

48 WHEREAS, despite the numerous serious attacks and threats
49 against the pro-life community, according to an October 11, 2024,
50 article revised November 11, 2024, by the Alliance Defending
51 Freedom, "After the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* in
52 June 2022, the Biden administration began a campaign to promote
53 abortion nationwide" and the Biden Department of Justice (DOJ)
54 "brought at least 26 charges against pro-life individuals under
55 the FACE Act in 2022," but brought zero (0) prosecutions against
56 "abortion activists who obstructed or vandalized pro-life
57 pregnancy centers in the wake of the Dobbs' decision that year";
58 and

59 WHEREAS, according to the aforementioned *Alliance Defending*
60 *Freedom* article, in October 2021, devout Christian Mark Houck was
61 praying with his son outside a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania,
62 abortion clinic when a Planned Parenthood escort repeatedly "got
63 in the face of Houck and his son" and made vulgar comments,
64 leading Houck to push the Planned Parenthood escort to get him
65 away from his son; and

66 WHEREAS, the aforementioned *Alliance Defending Freedom*
67 article further stated that state and local authorities brought no
68 charges against Houck, but the Biden Department of Justice did so
69 and, despite Houck's offer to turn himself in, "The FBI sent



70 'twenty heavily armed federal agents' to Houck's house in the
71 early morning hours, pointed at least five guns at him, his wife,
72 and his children, and then arrested him," yet it took a federal
73 jury less than three hours to find Houck not guilty of the charges
74 brought against him; and

75 WHEREAS, in another example of the Biden Administration's
76 persecution of the pro-life community, according to his written
77 testimony submitted December 18, 2024, to a subcommittee of the
78 United States House of Representatives' Judiciary Committee, and
79 further as reported by the National Catholic Register, father of
80 11 and small business owner, Paul Vaughn, was arrested in the
81 early morning hours at his home at gunpoint by an FBI SWAT team,
82 to the horror of his wife and seven of his children who were home,
83 all for merely praying outside an abortion clinic, after which
84 Vaughn was subjected to a lengthy prosecution and federal trial
85 and sentenced to three years of supervised release, even though
86 the lead negotiator for the local police department, who Vaughn
87 interacted with on the day of the alleged "crime," testified on
88 his behalf at the trial and video evidence showed Vaughn had not
89 blocked any facility entrances; and

90 WHEREAS, by his own public account, as broadcast by the
91 American Family Association (AFA), emergency room physician,
92 pastor, and father of 13, Dr. Coleman Boyd was put under felony
93 indictment under the FACE Act, paired with felony conspiracy
94 charges, forced to give up his firearms and placed under travel



95 restrictions blocking international mission work, as if he were a
96 terrorist, and, according to an article in *Zenit* magazine,
97 "sentenced to six months of house arrest, five years of probation,
98 and a \$110,000.00 fine," then lost his job as a result of his
99 sentencing; and

100 WHEREAS, according to an article in *The Daily Signal*,
101 89-year-old concentration camp survivor Eva Edl faced over a
102 decade in prison and received three years of probation for her
103 nonviolent protest of the same destruction of human life she saw
104 in her youth at a communist death camp; and

105 WHEREAS, according to an article by the *National Catholic*
106 *Register*, in yet another example of the Biden administration's
107 abuse of power using the FACE Act, Bevelyn Beatty Williams, a
108 33-year-old pro-life activist, was sentenced to three-and-a-half
109 years in prison after her protest at an abortion facility, with
110 the judge mercilessly taking her away from her daughter, a
111 toddler, for that child's formative years; and

112 WHEREAS, President Trump has already pardoned or granted
113 clemency to the aforementioned 23 pro-life activists, thereby
114 signaling his opposition to the FACE Act's many abuses; and

115 WHEREAS, this long train of abuses under the FACE Act has
116 demonstrated that the FACE Act has been weaponized and made a tool
117 of injustice and violation of law-abiding Americans'
118 constitutional rights, and has further demonstrated that the FACE
119 Act has been so irrevocably tainted by the Biden Administration's



120 politicized prosecutions and is so unavoidably subject to
121 prosecutorial abuse that United States Senator Mike Lee and
122 Representative Chip Roy have introduced H.R. 589 and S. 223 to
123 repeal the FACE Act, in support of which Senator Lee stated that
124 "the Biden DOJ has weaponized this constitutionally suspect law
125 against pro-life sidewalk counselors while failing to protect
126 pregnancy centers and churches from violent attacks,"; and

127 WHEREAS, despite the FBI's and DOJ's blatant abuses of the
128 FACE Act and the scandalously historic number of pardons and
129 clemencies the Biden administration has issued, including of his
130 own disgraced son, admitted felon Hunter Biden, whom he falsely
131 promised he would never pardon, President Biden provided no relief
132 to the pro-life Americans unjustly persecuted by his
133 administration for exercising their rights to free speech and
134 religious liberty in opposition to abortion:

135 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
136 MISSISSIPPI, that we call upon the United States Congress to
137 forthwith pass, and President Donald J. Trump to speedily sign,
138 bills H.R. 589 and S. 223 repealing the FACE Act.

139 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we call upon Mississippi Senator
140 Cindy Hyde-Smith and Mississippi Representatives Trent Kelly,
141 Bennie Thompson, Michael Guest, and Mike Ezell to join Mississippi
142 Senator Roger Wicker in cosponsoring the bills to repeal the FACE
143 Act in their respective chambers.



144 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we commend President Donald J.
145 Trump for pardoning or granting clemency to 23 Americans unjustly
146 convicted under the FACE Act for exercising their constitutional
147 rights to protest at abortion clinics.

148 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be furnished to
149 President Donald J. Trump; Majority Leader John Thune of the U.S.
150 Senate and Mississippi's U.S. Senators; Speaker of the House Mike
151 Johnson and Mississippi's members of Congress; the U.S. Attorney
152 General's Office; and made available to the Capitol Press Corps.

