Abortion is not healthcare, and taxpayers should not fund, incentivize, provide preferential tax treatment for, or otherwise subsidize the elective taking of unborn life. In light of a renewed push in Congress to repeal the Hyde Amendment and increase government funding for abortion businesses like Planned Parenthood, states must take legislative action to stop taxpayer subsidies of abortion. They can do this by codifying a state version of the Hyde Amendment and closing the Medicaid loophole, through which Planned Parenthood receives the bulk of its taxpayer funding. The CASH Act does both.

In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court’s Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion through all nine months of pregnancy. Since then, Congress and 24 states have taken steps to stop taxpayer funding for abortion and abortion businesses. These actions are consistent with polling that show a majority of Americans (nearly 54 percent) oppose funding abortions with taxpayer dollars.

Since 2012, FRC has tracked over 137 bills to decrease or eliminate state funding for abortion providers in 33 states. Of these, approximately 83 bills have sought to stop public funding of abortion businesses through state appropriations, 36 bills through Medicaid, and 50 through Title X. So far in 2022, 15 more bills have been proposed. For the last decade, states have consistently introduced legislation to stop taxpayer funding of abortion.

Legislative Intent: Efforts to stop taxpayer funding of abortion are under attack, and Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion business, still receives millions of dollars in taxpayer funding. The CASH Act would begin to close the largest loopholes by (1) codifying a state version of the Hyde Amendment and (2) prohibiting taxpayer funds from going to abortion providers.

The abortion industry receives taxpayer funds from multiple funding streams, including federal, state, and local tax dollars. Because several of the largest funding streams are federal block grants administered or regulated by state governments, efforts to defund the abortion industry have been further complicated by the courts and pro-abortion federal administrations. The CASH Act includes several options to defund abortion and
abortion providers. States can begin by taking all the legislative steps possible to untangle both federal and state funds passing through the state from subsidizing abortion. Then states have the option of directing their state executives to take further action to exclude abortion providers from the Medicaid program or going after the court precedents that have blocked states from defunding abortion providers in Medicaid.

Key Provisions:

Legislative findings reinforcing the principle that taxpayer dollars should not fund the abortion industry.

Definitions clarifying that “public funds” include all federal (except Medicaid), state, and local public funds; a definition of abortion is also provided.

Codifies state version of the federal Hyde Amendment and prohibits funding of entities that perform abortions.

A severability clause, right of intervention granted to the legislature, and required defense of legislation by the state executive.