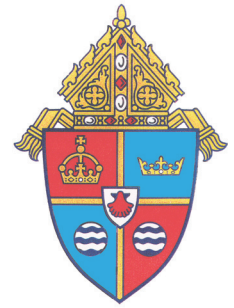


# THE TABLET



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## Bishops Stand Firm as Trump Suggests Hyde 'Flexibility'

by John Lavenburg, National Correspondent

After President Donald Trump encouraged flexibility from Congressional Republicans on a longstanding pro-life policy to achieve a health care deal, the U.S. bishops issued a reminder that "authentic health care upholds the dignity of all human life."

In a Jan. 6 speech at a caucus retreat, Trump told House Republicans that they "got to be a little flexible" on the Hyde amendment — a longstanding policy that prohibits federal funding of abortion services — to reach a deal on health care subsidies.

The Hyde amendment, a budget policy, has been in place since 1976.

"Authentic health care upholds the dignity of all human life, and health care policy must not violate this dignity," Bishop Daniel Thomas, chair of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, said in a Jan. 7 statement.

"In upholding this core principle, the U.S. bishops have long opposed any proposals to expand taxpayer funding of abortion and will continue to do so, including, if necessary, in the current debates in Congress over health care affordability plans," he said. "We urge Congress to work creatively to enact legislation that does not compromise the dignity of the human person, and that ensures access to authentic, life-affirming care."

Marjorie Dannenfelser, president of Susan B. Anthony Pro-Life America, which works to elect pro-life candidates to public office, said in a statement, "For decades, opposition to taxpayer funding of abortion and support for the Hyde amendment has been an unshakable bedrock principle and a minimum standard in the

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**FLORIDA**

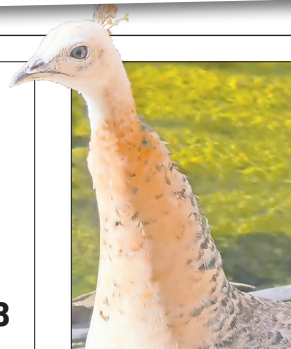
**READY  
TO  
SERVE**

Bishop-designate  
Manuel de Jesús  
Rodríguez  
prepares for  
Palm Beach  
assignment  
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Diocesan youth  
pledge to carry  
spirit of Jubilee  
2025 forward

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LI Catholic  
school is a  
modern day  
Noah's Ark

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