

# **TALKING POINTS in favor of the LAMBERT AMENDMENT**

Ed Holdgate, NH Republican State Committee Meeting, January 25, 2002

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Full disclosure statement: I am the GOP Town Chair from Sandown and am beginning my third 2-year term as a member of the Republican State Committee. I am a three-time NHGOP Convention Delegate, and I am Chairman of the New Hampshire Right to Life Political Action Committee. Contact me with feedback about this paper or to get more involved with pro-life initiatives by working with NH Right to Life at [www.nhrtl.org](http://www.nhrtl.org)

## ***1. This Lambert Amendment is divisive so our Party will suffer. We will become a minority.***

This is the exact same argument used, both at the National level and in NH, when the original pro-life plank was debated (calling for Human Life Amendment to the US Constitution). The pro-life plank has been standing both nationally and in NH for years and years. Indeed, just 2 years after the excellent National GOP pro-life plank was installed, Republicans gained control of the US House from the Democrats for the first time since 1952. Consider this information from the states where Lambert has been adopted in some form or another:

<b>2001- 2002</b>				
STATE	REPUBLICANS		DEMOCRATS	
Seat	US House	US Senate	US House	US Senate
Nebraska	3	1	0	1
S. Carolina	4	1	2	1
Georgia	8	0	3	2
Alabama	5	2	2	0
Oregon	1	1	4	1
Texas	13	2	17	0
	<b>1 PRESIDENT</b>		0	0
Total	35	7	28	5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>42 Republicans</b>		<b>33 Democrats</b>	

Obviously, passing Lambert types of rules at the state party level has not diminished the GOP at all. Remember, most of the above states are the traditional "Southern Democrat" bloc.

## ***2. Lambert discriminates against pro-choice Republicans.***

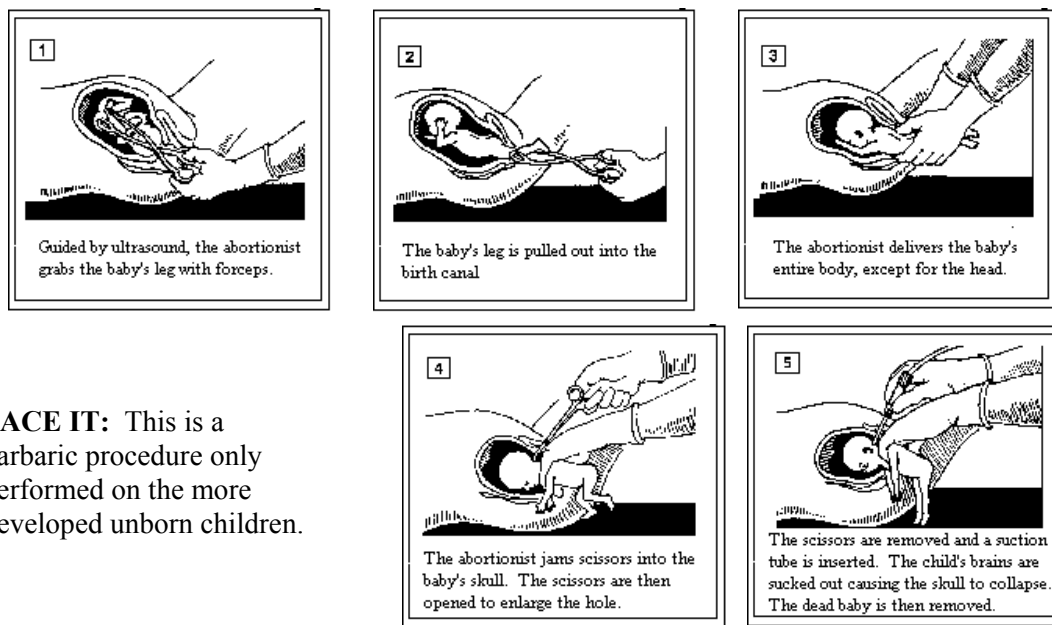
More correctly, the Lambert Amendment discriminates against pro-partial-birth-abortion Republicans. While both abortion and partial birth abortion kill children, abortion just 4 inches short of a live birth is particularly barbaric. PBA is virtual infanticide and like other bizarre points of view, those who support PBAs should be denied Republican funding. Consider that those who promote partial birth abortion besmirch even ideologically "pro-choice" Republicans as favoring virtual infanticide at the moment of birth. The NHGOP money, should the passage of Lambert be honored by the Party leaders, would merely get re-routed to those who do not defend infanticide at the moment of birth.

## ***3. We have to be a Big Tent and tolerate differences of opinion.***

When a legislator actually votes in favor of partial birth abortion, it is no longer about mere "opinion". It is about whether abortionists can kill partially born children in a cruel and bizarre way: scissors in the back of the neck, and sucking the brain out. Recall the strange case of NH Republican State Rep. Tom "I-view-cops-as-enemy-officers" Alciere, forced out of the NHGOP just

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last year for his bizarre point of view on killing police. The NHGOP would obviously never finance Alciere's re-election, even against a Democrat. But the NHGOP does fund candidates with a bizarre point of view on killing children at the moment of birth. The Lambert Amendment says nothing of the less militant "pro-choice" point of view, but seeks to document that supporting PBAs are an offensive point of view unworthy of party support. These pictures reveal why PBA is not just an "opinion". If the baby was tugged at just the right step (instead of stabbed with scissors), a live birth would occur:



**FACE IT:** This is a barbaric procedure only performed on the more developed unborn children.

**4. Practically all Republicans are against PBA already, so how does Lambert help?**

Far more Republicans have voted to allow the barbaric procedure than you may suspect:

NH REPUBLICANS WHO HAVE VOTED AGAINST ATTEMPTS TO BAN PBAs (Using a 1997 SB34 amendment, a 1997 HB768, a 1999 SB54, and a 2000 HB1116)			
Rep. Jeb Bradley	Rep. Vivian Clark	Rep. Lynn Horton	Rep. Alida Millham
Sen. Art Klemm	Rep. John Cobb	Rep. Karen Hutchinson	Rep. Andrew Peterson
Sen. Jane O'Hearn	Rep. Pamela Coughlin	Rep. Alf Jacobson	Rep. Donald Philbrick
Sen. Ned Gordon	Rep. Perley Davis	Rep. Robert Johnson	Rep. James Pilliod
Sen. Rick Russman	Rep. Bruce Dearborn	Rep. Sandra Keans	Rep. Anne Priestley
Sen. Leo Fraser	Rep. Howard Dickinson	Rep. Jane Kelley	Rep. Robert Rowe
Sen. Jim Squires	Rep. Cynthia Dokmo	Rep. David Kibbey	Rep. George Rubin
Sen. Amy Patenaude	Rep. Patricia Dunlap	Rep. Neal Kurk	Rep. David Russell
Rep. David Alukonis	Rep. Susan Durham	Rep. Peter Leishman	Rep. Norma Sabella
Rep. Eric Anderson	Rep. Merton Dyer	Rep. Priscilla Lockwood	Rep. Maxwell Sargent
Rep. David Babson	Rep. Stephanie Eaton	Rep. Donnalee Lozeau	Rep. Edwin Smith
Rep. Ronald Belanger	Rep. Martin Feuerstein	Rep. Richard Marple	Rep. Joseph Stone
Rep. William Belvin	Rep. Sheila Francoeur	Rep. Gene Marshall	Rep. P-Judith Sullivan
Rep. Richard Brewster	Rep. John Gallus	Rep. Kenneth Marshall	Rep. O-Alan Thulander
Rep. Russell Bridle	Rep. John Gleason	Rep. Roy Maxfield	Rep. J-Arthur Tufts
Rep. Julie Brown	Rep. Elizabeth Hager	Rep. Winston McCarty	Rep. Robert Turner
Rep. Leon Calawa	Rep. David Hess	Rep. Gerald Merrill	Rep. Giovanni Verani
Rep. Donald Carlson	Rep. Elizabeth Hoadley	Rep. Irene Messier	Rep. Carolyn Virtue
		Rep. John Whittier	Rep. Dennis Withee

Even though videotape of past NHGOP Conventions records many Delegates opposed to Lambert saying "few Republicans support Partial Birth Abortion", the above data refutes their assertions.

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**5. *Why not use the ballot box to vote out pro-PBA candidates?***

A house divided against itself cannot stand. The NHGOP is doling out money to pro-PBA candidates with the express purpose of overriding our pro-life Republican votes. Why should pro-life Republicans give money to a Party that will finance candidates who defend the repulsive procedure?

**6. *The Platform is not the place to control the funding of party candidates; use a By-Law.***

The Platform defines the goals and principles of a Party. It is most logical to agree on the goal and principle of the Lambert initiative first, and then implement the idea in the by-laws. Remember, Lambert has passed THREE NHGOP Conventions: 1998, 2000 and 2002. While the Platform has no binding power – no teeth – it affirms the pro-life, pro-Lambert sense of the majority of grass roots Republicans. Additionally, RSA 667:21 says we Delegates, “*shall meet in state convention for the purpose of adopting the platform of their party, [...] and effecting an organization for the following 2 years.*” No state law that I know of allows the Party leadership to arbitrarily edit out what they do not like from the adopted platform, but they have done it twice already – an obvious and risky violation of state law. The RSA also says we Delegates can “effect” the organization for 2 years. Bill Clinton taught us what “is” is, so the NHGOP can learn what “adopting” and “effecting” is too.

**7. *The Platform declares our views on public policy, not party operation or organization.***

Consider that the goal of a Party is to run the entire government guided by Party Principles. If the NHGOP cannot discipline ourselves to abide by fundamental, compassionate, majority principles (like opposing infanticide at the moment of birth), how can we expect to run a compassionate government? Also, the Platform outlines what we will and will not do for the Citizenry if they entrust our Party with government leadership. Lambert specifies that we shall not be hypocritical with money – we shall only put our money where our mouth is. That’s a principle entirely relevant to public policy (especially after the Clinton-Gore years!) How we define our goals and run our party should be an EXAMPLE of how we seek to run the entire government policies too.

**8. *What about other issues (taxes, guns, education, etc.) becoming litmus tests next?***

Obviously Tim Lambert, a National GOP Committeeman for whom this idea is named, knows what is happening in other states with regard to the sort of “litmus test”. He told me via telephone on September 20, 2002 that to his knowledge there still has not been a single attempt in any state to implement the idea on additional issues. Again, note that this is about infanticide at the moment of birth – sufficiently fundamental to be mentioned in the Declaration of Independence in the phrase about the “right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” PBA is something we, like most Americans according to the polls, can agree is unsavory and wrong – wrong enough to refuse to finance candidates who support PBAs.

**9. *The Platform already calls for a ban to stop partial birth abortions.***

The listing of NH Republican Senators and Representatives above (who promote PBAs) shows how effective a mere “call” has been. The Lambert idea is a profoundly effective way of getting the attention of said Republican candidates because money is involved. We should all be motivated by concern for the babies that hang in the balance, not mere money.

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**10. It causes our Party to be viewed as a one-issue party.**

The press explores conflict where ever it occurs. If the NHGOP can get consensus that partial birth infanticide is wrong, the conflict will soon be between the Republicans and the Democrats (who summarily believe in "choice" up to and including the moment of birth). It is in between the two parties that the disagreement over this kind of infanticide rightly belongs, not within our own Party. In 2000, NHGOP Chairman Steve Duprey said, on videotape, *"I think it is the strength and pride of the Republican Party that we can have this open debate on Lambert...This is what Conventions are all about."*

**11. If you want your donations to go to pro-life Republicans, just give your money directly to the candidates.**

Again, this is not a way of funding just "pro-life" Republicans – rather, we seek to only fund those who agree infanticide at the moment of birth (partial birth abortion) is wrong. The Republican Party Platform defines our identity, and becomes a "sales pitch" to donors and voters. Under "truth-in-advertising" rules, the NHGOP leaders should honor today's "DRAFT" edition where section VIII THE FAMILY says, "We place our highest priority on promoting and preserving the family..." and then the pro-life plank is listed. Since the NHGOP leaders have not honored the plank, Lambert seeks to compel "truth-in-advertising" first as a principle and goal, and soon as a by-law change.

## **THE LAMBERT AMENDMENT**

**WHEREAS** the procedure known as a "partial birth abortion" is a heinous act and is rightly described by the 1996 National Republican Platform as "four-fifths infanticide,"

**WHEREAS** a committee of the American Medical Association has denounced this procedure,

**WHEREAS** the Republican-controlled U.S. Congress has passed legislation by a huge majority with BI-partisan support that would end this travesty,

**WHEREAS** polls show the American people oppose this procedure by large margins, even among those who are pro-choice,

**WHEREAS** former President Clinton has vetoed this legislation, and the Bush Administration is still unable to ban the procedure,

**WHEREAS** the Republican Committees of seven other states have adopted, and some 43 members of the Republican National Committee have formally supported the intent of this measure,

**WHEREAS** the NH GOP Platform calls for a ban on the procedure but continues to provide money and in-kind contributions to candidates who defend such abortions,

**WHEREAS** even more justifications for this measure appear at <http://www.nhrfl.org/pac>

**WHEREAS**, this resolution was passed by the 1998 NHGOP Convention by a vote of 268 to 155, and it passed the 2000 NHGOP Convention by a vote of 158 to 112 , and it passed the 2002 NHGOP Convention by a vote of 167 to 149 ,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ADDED TO THE NHRSC BYLAWS:**

**The New Hampshire Republican State Committee shall not support financially or by in-kind contributions any candidate or nominee of this party who opposes measures to end so-called partial-birth abortions.**

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**IF YOU ARE READY TO HELP IN ANY WAY, CONTACT ME ASAP!**