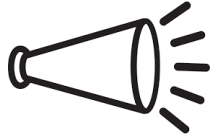


Florida Voice



For The Unborn

P.O. Box 12152 | Tallahassee, FL 32317

Florida Voice for the Unborn Encourages Florida Republican Senators to Rethink Installing Kathleen Passidomo as the Next Senate President Following Passidomo's Despicable Remarks Attacking the Pro-Life Florida Heartbeat Act as Similar to Laws Promulgated in Nazi-Era Germany

October 19, 2021

For Immediate Release

Contact: Andrew Shirvell, Founder and Executive Director, at (850) 404-3414 or Andrew@FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com.

Executive Director Andrew Shirvell today issued the following statement regarding Naples Republican Senator Kathleen Passidomo on the day she is expected to be officially selected as the next President-Designate of the Florida Senate:

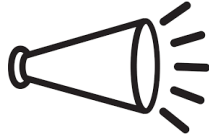
“This morning, I issued an urgent e-letter to all Florida Republican state Senators, informing them of a grave matter concerning their colleague, Senator Kathleen Passidomo (R–Naples). In this letter, which is attached, I highlight Senator Passidomo’s recent remarks comparing the newly-filed Florida Heartbeat Act to laws enacted in Nazi-era Germany. As the letter makes clear, Senator Passidomo’s analogy is despicable. It is beyond the pale for Senator Passidomo to equate the Florida Heartbeat Act – which is designed to protect innocent babies from being killed in abortions after there is a detectable heartbeat – to laws promulgated by one of the most murderous regimes in human history.”

Shirvell continued, “Perhaps even more infuriating is that, [later this afternoon in a ceremony in the Florida Senate chamber](#), Senator Passidomo is scheduled to be officially selected as the President-Designate of the Florida Senate for the next legislative term, beginning after the 2022 general election. Under Florida’s unique rules, legislative leaders are often chosen years in advance. While Senator Passidomo thankfully will not be in-charge of the Senate during the upcoming 60-day 2022 Legislative Session (scheduled to begin on January 11th), she will wield undue influence as the Senate President in-waiting. That is exactly why I sent an urgent letter this morning to all of Senator Passidomo’s Republican colleagues, encouraging them to rethink elevating her to such an auspicious position.”

Shirvell concluded, “Florida is woefully behind her sister states in enacting lifesaving laws protecting unborn children from becoming the victims of the homicidal abortion industry. For far too long, Florida’s legislative leaders have failed to move pro-life legislation along. It appears to me that Senator Passidomo, who claims to be ‘pro-life,’ has a severe contempt for real pro-lifers, those individuals – like many of **Florida Voice for the Unborn’s** grassroots supporters – who have spent years (if not decades) in the trenches saving the lives of unborn children and helping their mothers. Senator Passidomo’s remarks evince a troubling attitude that drips with condescension for the base of her own political party. She should publicly apologize for her insulting words. And Republican Senators would be wise to rethink supporting Senator Passidomo as the Senate’s next President.”

Florida Voice for the Unborn is a Tallahassee-based grassroots lobbying group that only focuses on pro-life issues impacting the unborn. It is strictly independent, and its work is guided by faith in God’s only Son, Jesus Christ. Florida Voice for the Unborn supports all peaceful efforts by elected officials and others to end abortion and save lives. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, and Parler @UnbornVoiceFL – and visit our website at FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com.

Florida Voice



For The Unborn

P.O. Box 12152 | Tallahassee, FL 32317

October 19, 2021

Sent via e-mail ONLY.

The Florida Republican Senate Caucus
404 South Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Re: Republican Senator Kathleen Passidomo's Outrageous Comparison of the Florida Heartbeat Act to Laws Promulgated in Nazi-era Germany.

Dear President Simpson, Republican Majority Leader Mayfield, and Republican Senators Albritton, Baxley, Bean, Boyd, Bradley, Brandes, Brodeur, Broxson, Burgess, Diaz, Gainer, Garcia, Gruters, Harrell, Hooper, Hutson, Perry, Rodriguez, Rodriguez, Stargel & Wright:

I am the founder and executive director of Florida Voice for the Unborn, a statewide pro-life grassroots lobbying group based in Tallahassee. Florida Voice for the Unborn supports the Florida Heartbeat Act, which state Rep. Webster Barnaby (R-Deltona) filed on September 22, 2021.

I am writing to you today regarding an unfounded, despicable analogy that your colleague, Senator Kathleen Passidomo (R-Naples), recently made regarding the Florida Heartbeat Act.

Last Thursday, October 14th, the *Tampa Bay Times* sent its weekly e-newsletter, known as "The Buzz," to subscribers throughout Florida. This edition of the newsletter contained the following quote attributed to Senator Passidomo, which concerned the private enforcement mechanism contained within Rep. Barnaby's bill:

"Those people who say that if we allow neighbors to turn neighbors in we will save lives: think about the alternative. How many people died in Nazi Germany because people turned people in? We don't do that in this country."

I subsequently confirmed with Senator Passidomo's office that the senator really said what the *Tampa Bay Times* reported in its October 14th e-newsletter.

I am absolutely **outraged** that Senator Passidomo would make such an offensive comparison.

As you likely know, the Florida Heartbeat Act is modeled after the highly successful Texas Heartbeat Law, which the Texas Legislature passed, Governor Greg Abbott signed, and the United States Supreme Court permitted to go into effect. Since September 1, 2021, this lifesaving law has protected an estimated one-hundred (100) babies each day from being killed via abortion, for a total of 4,900 precious unborn children thus far.¹ The private enforcement mechanism is what has allowed these babies to be spared from an abortionist's murderous tools. This method simply allows private citizens the right to hold abortionists (and their collaborators) – but not the mothers of the aborted children – liable for the deaths of innocent babies.

While the civil enforcement mechanism maybe unorthodox, it is certainly not new in the abortion context. It has been employed at the federal level for almost two decades now. In 2003, Congress passed the Partial-Birth Abortion Act. In that legislation, Congress criminalized a horrendous form of child-killing *and* it also provided for a private right of action so that the father or the maternal grandparents of the aborted child could sue the abortionist for committing a partial-birth abortion.²

It is truly beyond the pale for Senator Passidomo to publicly label laws like the Texas Heartbeat Act and the federal Partial-Birth Abortion Act as equivalent to those enacted by one of the most murderous regimes in human history. Her egregious analogy is a demeaning insult to Florida Voice for the Unborn's grassroots supporters throughout the Sunshine State, many of whom have worked for years (if not decades) to save the lives of unborn children.

And perhaps even more offensive is the fact that, later this afternoon, Senator Passidomo is scheduled to be officially selected – by all of you – as the President-Designate of the Florida Senate for the next legislative term, beginning after the 2022 general election. Instead of elevating Senator Passidomo to such an auspicious office, you should be holding her accountable by contemplating a possible reprimand, per Senate rules. But at the very least, you cannot now claim to be ignorant of Senator Passidomo's documented contempt for a law that has been proven to save the lives of defenseless children in the womb.

Sincerely,

s/Andrew L. Shirvell

Andrew L. Shirvell, J.D.
Founder and Executive Director
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(850) 404-3414
andrew@floridavoicetheunborn.com

Cc: Senator Passidomo

¹ ['An Answered Prayer': Federal Appeals Court Panel Reinstates Texas Law Banning Most Abortions | CBN News.](#)

² See 18 U.S.C. § 1531.