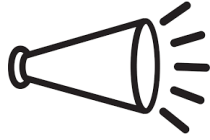


# Florida Voice



## For The Unborn

P.O. Box 12152 | Tallahassee, FL 32317

**Florida Voice for the Unborn Urges Governor Ron DeSantis to Amend His Call for the Post-General Election Special Legislative Session to Include Consideration of Comprehensive Legislation Protecting All Unborn Children in Florida**

October 21, 2022

\*For Immediate Release\*

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

Executive Director Andrew Shirvell today issued the following statement regarding the Governor's announcement of a post-General Election Special Legislative Session:

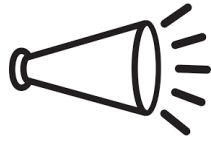
“In a letter written to Governor Ron DeSantis this morning, **Florida Voice for the Unborn** is requesting that the Governor immediately declare that the upcoming post-General Election Special Legislative Session will include consideration of comprehensive legislation protecting **ALL** unborn children in Florida. Our letter is attached to this release.”

Shirvell concluded, “As the letter makes crystal clear, pro-life citizens want Governor DeSantis and our Legislature to boldly provide the same protections for Florida's unborn children as are now found in nearly a dozen other states. Our patience with the unacceptable status quo is coming to an end. The time for action is NOW!”

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**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](http://FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com).

# Florida Voice



## For The Unborn

P.O. Box 12152 | Tallahassee, FL 32317

October 21, 2022

**Sent via First Class U.S. Mail & via E-mail to  
[Ron.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com](mailto:Ron.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com).**

The Honorable Ronald DeSantis  
Governor, State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Re: Your Announcement of a Post-General Election Special Legislative Session

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am the founder and executive director of Florida Voice for the Unborn, a statewide pro-life grassroots lobbying group based here in Tallahassee.

On behalf of Florida Voice for the Unborn, I wrote to you on May 3rd of this year, prior to the start of a previously scheduled late May Special Legislative Session, to request that you amend your Special Legislative Session proclamation to include consideration of comprehensive legislation protecting all of Florida's unborn children under our state's laws. I did so because the May 2nd leak of the draft majority opinion in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* showed that the United States Supreme Court was poised to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, thereby returning to the states the rightful authority to once again completely prohibit abortion within their borders.

On May 24th, pro-life grassroots activists throughout Florida traveled to the Capitol complex for Florida Voice for the Unborn's Day of Action, which occurred during the late May Special Legislative Session. We held an outside rally, at which several pro-life legislators either spoke or

attended; peacefully demonstrated on the fourth floor of the Capitol; met with additional legislators or their aides at their Capitol offices; and held a press conference. My May 3rd letter to you and Florida Voice for the Unborn's subsequent Day of Action garnered significant media coverage.

Although Florida Voice for the Unborn's activities did not result in consideration of comprehensive pro-life legislative protections for Florida's unborn at that time, they did give rise to an in-person meeting between me and your Chief of Staff, James Uthmeier, at your Capitol office on May 26th.

During this May 26th meeting, Mr. Uthmeier urged a cautious approach since the U.S. Supreme Court's final *Dobbs* decision had yet to be formally released. Nonetheless, Mr. Uthmeier was optimistic that you would call for a Special Legislative Session dedicated to further protections for the unborn, which would take place by the end of 2022. Moreover, Mr. Uthmeier offered to host a conference call with Florida Voice for the Unborn's grassroots supporters following the release of the final *Dobbs* decision.

After *Roe v. Wade* was officially overturned via the official June 24th *Dobbs* decision, I repeatedly contacted Mr. Uthmeier to schedule the anticipated grassroots conference call that your office offered to host. On July 9th, Mr. Uthmeier wrote to me, in part, as follows: "We plan to host a teleforum call, coordinated by our faith outreach office, in the near future and all interested pro-life constituents will be welcome to attend...We will distribute the call-in details to you once scheduled." Despite my follow-up communication with Mr. Uthmeier several weeks later, the teleforum call has yet to be scheduled as promised.

Yesterday, October 20th, I learned through media reports that you announced a Special Legislative Session to take place by the end of 2022. You reportedly made no mention of the unborn, and instead communicated that this Special Legislative Session would be dedicated – just like the late May Special Legislative Session – to issues related to property insurance.

**I am writing to you today to express my extreme displeasure regarding your October 20th announcement and your office's failure (thus far) to schedule the anticipated grassroots conference call with Florida Voice for the Unborn's supporters. Furthermore, I am requesting that you amend your call for this next Special Legislative Session to include comprehensive legislation protecting all of Florida's unborn children.**

As the elected decision-maker, you are responsible for how your office is conducted. Since the June 24th final *Dobbs* decision, many of Florida Voice for the Unborn's grassroots supporters have reached out personally to Mr. Uthmeier and other members of your staff regarding the conference call, only to be met with a wall of silence. To say that we have been disappointed would be a gigantic understatement. **Accordingly, I am asking you to instruct your staff to set a timely date and time for the conference call.** A promise made should be a promise kept. Anything less is unacceptable.

Secondly, I want to continue to impress upon you the gravity of the abortion situation in Florida. Since the June 24th *Dobbs* decision, Florida has become an abortion destination state. The statistics compiled by Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration show that abortion

numbers are on the rise in those counties where abortionists operate with impunity. For example, in Leon County, the number of preborn children murdered via legal abortion in [July 2021 was 239](#), whereas in [July 2022, 403 babies were killed](#). The increase is dramatic and a direct result of Florida's tragic status as the abortion capital of the South.

The 15-Week Abortion Ban, enacted earlier this year and in full effect right now, has not had the intended effect of even slightly reducing Florida's overall abortion rate. In fact, 2022 is shaping up to beat 2021's record year of nearly 80,000 abortions in Florida. Indeed, with approximately 54 abortion mills in operation, the "Red" state of Florida is saturated with the blood of unborn children who are being violently torn apart, suffering a horrific death, and thrown away as trash on a massive, unprecedented scale. That is outrageous. But as the Chief Executive of our state, you have the power to help end this human rights atrocity, which is occurring on a daily basis on your watch.

**The Special Legislative Session that you have just called for to take place sometime after the November 8th General Election, but before the end of the year, MUST include the consideration of comprehensive legislation protecting all of Florida's unborn children under our state's laws.**

Florida's unborn children, who are being horrendously murdered, cannot afford to wait any longer! And Florida's grassroots pro-life advocates are also done waiting! To that end, Florida Voice for the Unborn and a partner grassroots organization will be hosting a Pro-life Day of Action at the Capitol on Tuesday, November 22nd, which is the date of the constitutionally-mandated Legislative Organizational Session. In preparation for this event, pro-life citizens throughout Florida have been signing thousands of postcards, urging prompt legislative action that will protect all of the state's unborn children. These postcards will be hand delivered to the incoming legislative leaders on November 22nd.

In light of your October 20th announcement regarding the next Special Legislative Session, I am also asking Florida Voice for the Unborn's grassroots supporters to once again contact you (and key members of your staff) with the same message. To wit: "The 'Free State of Florida' cannot be truly free until you act to make it TOTALLY abortion free!"

I look forward to your timely, favorable response to the requests outlined above. Thank you.

Sincerely,

s/Andrew L. Shirvell

Andrew L. Shirvell, J.D.  
Founder and Executive Director  
Florida Voice for the Unborn, Inc.  
(850) 404-3414  
[andrew@floridavoicefortheunborn.com](mailto:andrew@floridavoicefortheunborn.com)

Cc: Mr. James Uthmeier, Esq.  
Mr. Christopher Spencer  
Ms. Stephanie Kopelousos  
Mr. Dylan Fisher  
Mr. Andrew Laubacher

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](https://FloridaVoiceForTheUnborn.com).