



**National Institute
of Family and Life Advocates**

10333 Southpoint Landing Blvd Suite 107, Fredericksburg, VA 22407

- Phone: 540.372.3930
- Fax: 540.372.3929
- www.NIFLA.org
- Admin@NIFLA.org

National Institute of
Family and Life Advocates
Fredericksburg, VA

Hope Choice
Executive Director Candy Gibbs and the Board of Directors
1501 S. Taylor
Amarillo, TX 79101

Friday, May 24, 2024

Dear Hope Choice,

I am writing today to inform you that the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA) fully supports the proposed Sanctuary City for the Unborn Ordinance which was brought forth by the citizen initiative petition in your city.

These ordinances are not new to the pro-life movement or to NIFLA. These ordinances have been passed in many jurisdictions with NIFLA pregnancy center members, including cities like Lubbock, Odessa, Abilene, and San Angelo, and have proven to be an effective deterrent to abortion. NIFLA will stand with Hope Choice in working through any questions which may arise from the implementation of the proposed ordinance

NIFLA does not support and strongly opposes any changes to the ordinance that would add exceptions absent from any other Texas abortion law, as this would be inconsistent with state law and could have a detrimental effect across the state and the nation. If such an exception were to be added, it would also create a situation where pro-life leaders and organizations from across the state and the nation would likely feel compelled to weigh in on the matter and publicly address those who are advocating for such exceptions.

Texas is a pro-life leader in America and has a vital role in helping bring an end to abortion in Texas and in the entire United States of America. In order to arrive at this reality we will need more abortion restrictions and more pregnancy resource centers.

Attached is the full letter which was sent to the Mayor and City Council.

Sincerely,

Thomas Glessner
President and Founder, NIFLA

Thomas A. Glessner, Esq., President ∞ Anne J. O'Connor, Esq., Vice President of Legal Affairs
Audrey Stout, RN, RDMS, Vice President of Medical Services ∞ Byron C. Calhoun, MD, Medical Director



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Amarillo City Government
Mayor and City Council
PO BOX 1971,
Amarillo, TX 79105-1971



Dear Mayor Cole Stanley and Amarillo City Council,

For more than 25 years the National Institute of Family and Life Advocates (NIFLA) has worked to protect, equip, and defend pro-life pregnancy centers so they may better fulfill their mission to save lives. Legal guidelines, best practices, and procedures developed by NIFLA have proven effective in protecting member centers from legal pitfalls. Currently, NIFLA represents more than 1,700 member pregnancy centers across the country, with over 1,200 of those centers being licensed medical clinics. Over 120 of our centers are located in the State of Texas and over 100 of those centers are licensed medical clinics. The mission of member pregnancy centers, like *Hope Choice* in Amarillo, is to reduce abortions and empower mothers to choose life.

I am writing today to inform you that NIFLA fully supports the proposed Amarillo Sanctuary City for the Unborn Ordinance which was brought forth by the citizen initiative petition. While the pre-Roe v. Wade Statutes, the Texas Heartbeat Act, and the Human Life Protection Act have all made a great impact in reducing abortions and empowering mothers to choose life, there is still work to be done in Texas.

Under the laws of the State of Texas, it is not illegal for an abortion to be performed on a Texas resident outside the State of Texas. And, under the laws of the State of Texas, it is not illegal for someone to drive a Texas resident to get an abortion outside of the State of Texas. Every day, pregnant mothers are being driven across state lines for the purpose of obtaining a legal abortion. Every day, unborn children are losing their lives. This ordinance attempts to close some of these loopholes by prohibiting abortions performed on residents of Amarillo across state lines and by prohibiting the abortion trafficking of unborn children across state lines. Based on the responses of many pregnancy centers from throughout the state, NIFLA is under the belief that the passage of this ordinance would actually increase the numbers of pregnant mothers seeking help at pro-life pregnancy centers as they seek out all of their options.

NIFLA does not support and strongly opposes any changes to the ordinance that would add exceptions absent from any other Texas abortion law, as this would be inconsistent with state law and could have a detrimental effect across the state and the nation.

Sincerely,

Thomas Glessner
President and Founder, NIFLA

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