



National Institute
of Family and Life Advocates

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National Institute of
Family and Life Advocates
Fredericksburg, VA

Friday, May 24, 2024

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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