



How to Protect All Iowans in the Womb

Biblical Guidance from Iowa Protestant Pastors
2026 Legislative Session

Dear Governor, Senators, and Members of Congress,

Grace and Peace. We are thankful for the recent efforts to protect the unborn in our state. Yet many lives are not protected due to their age (too young to have an audible heartbeat), how they were conceived (rape or incest), or how they were aborted (through “self-managed” abortion). When we talk to fellow Iowans, they are surprised to hear there is no restriction against self-managed abortions in our state, and those account for the majority of abortions today.

Below, you will find a summary statement of a larger guidebook we produced last year. We ask you to read this, keep it handy, and then contact us with any questions. The full guidebook is also available at iowapastors.church

We are standing by to help in any way needed. May the Lord bless you as you minister for him (Romans 13:1,4).

Respectfully, *Protestant Pastors in 2026*

Principle 1. Life—and therefore Personhood—Begins at Fertilization. Conception and new life occur at fertilization (Ps. 51:5).

Principle 2. Persons in the Womb are Entitled to Equal Protection. It is the civil magistrate’s God-given role to protect this helpless life (Ex. 22:22-24).

Principle 3. Exception Clauses are Immoral and Self-Contradictory. The Bible requires we treat all life on an equally valuable basis. (Rom.2:11, Ex. 12:48-49).

Principle 4. Public Repentance is Required for the Healing of Our State. God holds the whole state, and particularly the civil magistrate, responsible for allowing abortions to date (2 Chron. 7:14, Rom. 13:4)

Principle 5. Abortion is a Violation of the Sixth Commandment and Therefore Murder. Since life begins at fertilization, any willful termination of this life can be nothing other than murder and is a capital offense according to God (Ex. 20:13; 21:22-25).

Principle 6. Both Parent(s) and Doctor are Culpable in an Intentional Abortion. The Bible requires equal punishment for equal crimes. If either or both parents voluntarily authorize an abortion performed on the unborn child, he/she/they are complicit in the crime. The distinction between murder and manslaughter should be according to the normal civil code and judicial procedures. (2 Sam. 11:15; 12:9, Lev. 24:22, Deut. 10:17).

Note: In order for abortion to be murder, it requires knowledge and intent per the normal court procedures

Principle 7. Chemical Abortifacients Violate the Sixth Commandment. The majority of abortions today are chemical abortion and require prohibition by the Bible.

Principle 8. In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) May Violate the Sixth Commandment. IVF normally causes the loss of lives of multiple persons. This can be prevented with single-egg IVF (Deut. 22:8, Matt. 22:39,40).

Principle 9. Intrauterine devices (IUDs) or the “Plan B” Pill May Violate the Sixth Commandment. The American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology estimated that a woman using an IUD will have 0.2 to 1.0 “postfertilization losses per year.”

Signatories of Iowa Pastors can be seen [here](#).

For our Full Guidebook, visit iowapastors.church
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