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Arkansas Abortion Activists Deliver Over 100,000 Signatures on Petitions to Enshrine Killing Babies into the Arkansas State Constitution

Former Arkansas State Senator Jason Rapert and Arkansas State Representative Mary Bentley, the prime sponsors of ACT 180 the Arkansas Human Life Protection Act, respond to news that abortion supporters claim to have secured enough signatures to enshrine abortion into the Arkansas State Constitution

Conway, AR, July 5, 2024 – Abortion supporters in Arkansas [claim to have delivered over 100,000 signatures on petitions](#) to the Arkansas Secretary of State in hopes that they have reached the minimum threshold needed to get their abortion amendment on the November ballot. If the proposal is allowed on the ballot it will enshrine the killing of unborn babies into the Arkansas State Constitution and undermine all existing pro-life laws in Arkansas.

NACL founder and president, former Arkansas state senator Jason Rapert, was the primary sponsor of the [Arkansas Human Life Protection Act of 2019](#) and Rep. Mary Bentley (AR) of Perryville, Arkansas, who now chairs the NACL National Legislative Council was the House co-sponsor. Commonly referred to as an abortion ban trigger bill, and now known as Act 180 of 2019, their legislation was triggered in 2022 when Roe v. Wade was overturned by the U.S. Supreme Court in the historic Dobbs decision. ACT 180 bans all abortion procedures in Arkansas except to save the life of a mother in a medical emergency and is the target of the current abortion amendment petition effort.

Responding to the news [Jason Rapert](#) said, “We will fight to stop the cold-blooded baby killers who seek to enshrine abortion into the Arkansas State Constitution. I personally pray that their effort falls short and any fraudulent signatures on the petitions are exposed by the Secretary of State.”

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With the petitions now in the hands of the Arkansas Secretary of State's office, the process begins to verify the petitions and the signatures. Even if the minimum number of signatures has been reached there could be legal efforts to have the measure kicked off the ballot.

“Since ACT 180 went into force all surgical abortion clinics in our state have shut down and it is reported that thousands of babies have been saved in our state. [For four years in a row our state was named the most pro-life state in the entire nation](#) because of the work me and my legislative colleagues did to protect the lives of unborn children. I am sad that anyone would want to undermine our work to save lives,” Rapert said.

[Rep. Mary Bentley](#) has been a tireless champion of pro-life legislation in Arkansas and through her leadership of the NACL National Legislative Council. Bentley said, “After decades of fighting to protect women and the unborn from the horrors of abortion, I am saddened to see that the signature threshold appears to have been reached today for the Arkansas abortion amendment. I know that many Arkansas voters who do not support abortion signed the petition so that they could vote against this amendment. Should the amendment make it through the curing period with the Secretary of State I firmly believe it will be soundly defeated in November.”

The Arkansas abortion amendment proposal is one of the most radical proposals in the nation which would allow abortions right up until birth. According to information released by opponents of the abortion amendment the proposal would allow: abortions up until the moment of birth; does not require abortionists or abortion facilities to be licensed or inspected; jeopardizes parental notification and consent for abortions involving minors.

“I know that most people in Arkansas are good and decent people who oppose abortion. It is sad that we have a small but obsessed group of people who make killing babies their number one political goal in our state. Speaking on behalf of myself and as president of the NACL, we will do everything within our power to educate people on how radical this abortion amendment is and join with any effort to challenge the amendment. The amendment is radically flawed and should never be placed on the ballot,” Rapert said. [Rapert sponsored the very first heartbeat bill to be passed into law in our nation on March 6, 2013](#) in Arkansas. He has been a champion of Christian conservative viewpoints in the public square throughout his service as an elected official and during his leadership of the NACL.

The NACL is frequently recognized in national publications for its ties to leading Christian spiritual and political figures across the United States and is the only operational faith-based para-legislative organization in the country. Many Arkansas local elected officials and state legislators are active members of the NACL as well as supporting members throughout the Natural State.

About the National Association of Christian Lawmakers (NACL):

The mission of the National Association of Christian Lawmakers (NACL) is to unite federal, state, and local lawmakers in support of clear biblical principles by meeting regularly to discuss major issues, and propose model statutes, ordinances, and resolutions to address significant policy concerns from a biblical worldview. Since its inaugural meeting in 2020, the NACL has established 35 state chairs and has garnered members and supporters in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. NACL is the first formal national association of Christian lawmakers in American history.

For more information, please visit <https://christianlawmakers.com/>