### **Public Policy**

An important component of the work of the Respect Life Apostolate is its effort to impact public policy. Without successfully improving our laws, our efforts to educate and provide abortion alternatives will achieve limited results.

The RLA works with Parish Respect Life Committees to maintain and build effective communication networks which can be mobilized to contact public officials regarding pertinent legislation. The RLA works in close cooperation with the Missouri Catholic Conference and United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to keep the people of the Archdiocese well-informed about legislation on the state and federal levels, such as the current Missouri Abortion Ballot Initiative.

# 2023-2024 Missouri Abortion Ballot Initiative Updates & Resources

- Archdiocesan 30 Prayer Days for Life Campaign to Defeat the Initiative Sign-Up Link (May - June 2024)
  - Download the prayer campaign flyer here.
  - Archdiocesan prayer to defeat the ballot initiative.
- MCC: Supporter Deliver Signatures to Put Abortion on the Ballot (May 2024)
- MCC: Where Does it Say That? Flyer Explaining the Ballot Initiative Language (April -June 2024)
- MCC: Podcast on the Missouri Abortion Ballot Initiative (April 2024)

#### PRIOR RESOURCES (October 2023 - April 2024)

- How to Remove Your Signature from the Missouri Abortion Ballot Initiative (Online Form) (April 2024)
  - Unsign the Abortion Ballot Initiative Per Missouri Statute/Secretary of State (April 2024)
- ArchSTL: Update on Decline to Sign/Missouri Abortion Ballot Initiative as Presented by Deacon Sam Lee to the Archdiocesan Parish Coordinators) (April 22, 2024)
- ArchSTL: Sample Pulpit Announcements (April 2024)
- MCC: Webpage of Centralized Resources on the Ballot Initiative (April 2024)
- Our Lady of Sorrows to Host 90 Prayer Days for Life Event (April 5, 2024)
- ArchSTL & MCC: Decline to Sign Resource Flyer for Parishes (March May 2024)
- ArchSTL: Update on Decline to Sign/Missouri Abortion Ballot Initiative as Presented by Deacon Sam Lee to the Permanent Deacons and Ste. Genevieve Parish (March 2024)
- ArchSTL: Decline to Sign Life Chains at Archdiocesan Parishes (March May 2024)
- Southern Vicariate: Decline to Sign Informational Meeting at Ste. Genevieve Parish (March 2024)
- ArchSTL: Preaching Talking Points for Priests and Deacons (March 2024)
- ArchSTL & MCC: Missouri Bishops Statement Opposing the Abortion Ballot Initiative (February 2024)
  - Declaración de la Conferencia Católica de Missouri (MCC) sobre la iniciativaciudadana en materia de aborto ciudadana en materia de aborto (February 2024)

- 90 Prayer Days for Life Campaign to Defeat the Missouri Pro-Abortion Ballot Initiative (February - May 2024)
- MCC Messenger: In-Depth Feature on the Missouri Abortion Ballot Initiative (February 2024)
- Call/Text Missouri "Decline to Sign" Tipline 417-413-4134 to Report Signature Collection Locations (January - May 2024)
- ArchSTL: Signature Collection Efforts and Update as Presented at the RLA Parish Coordinator Meeting (January 2024)
- ArchSTL: Archbishop Rozanski's Column on the Missouri Ballot Initiative (January 2024)
- MCC: Missouri Bishops Encourage Missourians to Safeguard the Sanctity of Human Life (December 2023)
- MCC: Update on the Missouri Ballot Initiative (December 2023)
- ArchSTL: 5 Things You Can Do Right Now Flyer (Prayerful and Practical Action Steps (November 2023)
  - Step 1: Prayer Flyer (December 2023)
  - Step 2: Walking with Moms Flyer (January 2024)
  - Step 3: Decline to Sign Flyer (March 2024)
- ArchSTL: Backgrounder on the Missouri Ballot Initiative as Presented at the Respect Life Conference (October 2023)

#### 2022 - 2023 USCCB Dobbs Resources for Parish Leaders

- Word of Life Special Dobbs Edition
- Pray for Dobbs Resources

### Missouri Catholic Conference (MCC) Public Policy Updates

The Missouri Catholic Conference is the public policy agency for the Catholic Church in Missouri. The MCC works for the common good of all Missourians by reviewing all legislation in the Missouri General Assembly that directly relates to Catholic social teaching. Sign up updates and action alerts, including respect life, at this link: https://www.votervoice.net/MOCATHOLIC/Register

# U.S. Conference Of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Pro-Life Prayer & Action Alerts

RespectLife.org is a project of the USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities. The Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, under the guidance and direction of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities, works to teach respect for all human life from conception to natural death, and organize for its protection. To serve this goal, we develop resources on pro-life topics in support of the Church's mission to proclaim that every human life is a precious gift from God. Our work is guided by the Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities, which calls upon the Church—its people, services, and institutions—to pursue this effort in four major areas: prayer and worship, public information and education, public policy, and pastoral care. We create resources to help dioceses, parishes, ministries, and individual Catholics share the Gospel of Life.

#### **USCCB Respect Life Prayer and Action**

When you sign up for Respect Life Prayer and Action, you will receive prayers, action alerts to contact Congress and government leaders, ways to strengthen a culture of life in your community and more, to help protect the innocent against attacks on human life. Join thousands of Catholics as we seek to transform our culture. Together, we are powerful! Click here to sign up: https://www.respectlife.org/prayer-and-action