



Archbishop Vigneron's statement regarding pro-life petitions preparing to circulate in Michigan

The Department of Communications of the Archdiocese of Detroit shares

Archbishop Vigneron's comments on two citizen initiative petition drives set to take place in Michigan that would have an impact on pro-life policy in the state. The drive organized by Right to Life of Michigan, would prohibit dilation and evacuation abortion procedures, also known as "dismemberment abortion." A second proposal seeks to prohibit abortion after cardiac activity is detected in the developing child. The Michigan Catholic Conference [MCC] Board of Directors, with Archbishop Vigneron as its chair, is in full support of the dismemberment abortion petition drive, and has expressed reservations about the heartbeat petition. Archbishop Vigneron's comments are as follows:

"The Catholic Church in Michigan lends her support to sound and reasonable public policies, especially those which protect the most innocent among us. I invite all people of goodwill, regardless of religious or political affiliation, to join the citizen initiative effort to prohibit the heinous dilation and evacuation abortion procedure that requires the dismemberment of a human child in the womb. While the proposal advanced by the "heartbeat" coalition shares the goal of ending abortion, it appears to raise the possibility of negatively impacting existing law in Michigan that protects all unborn human life, which only lies dormant due to the Roe v. Wade decision. As these petition drives move forward, I applaud those who continue to change hearts and minds by invoking the humanity, dignity and rights of the unborn child while at the same time being close to and offering unyielding support for women who may find themselves in a challenging or crisis pregnancy."

Our parish will be participating in this endeavor. Next week's Traveler will present detailed information about this initiative and next steps through the petition process. Pray and support.