

STATE OF KANSAS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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STEPHEN OWENS
74TH DISTRICT

February 1, 2019

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Honorable Andrew Cuomo,

As members of the Kansas Legislature, we stand united in voicing our complete disapproval of your recently enacted law allowing abortion up until the day before delivery, enabling medical professionals other than licensed Medical Doctors to perform said abortions, and the decriminalization of the death of an unborn child.

According to the Declaration of Independence, considered to be the founding document of the United States,^[1] it is a “self-evident” truth “that [all men] are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights” such as “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”^[2] That our founding document enumerates “Life” as first among other fundamental rights^[3] implies that our founding document deems the right to life to be the preeminent of all rights. Also, that our founding document deems the right to life a gift of man’s “Creator”^[4] implies that human life is inherently precious at all stages and is not to be unjustly taken. These things could not have escaped the notice of the drafters and ratifiers of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution which, among other things, forbids every state from depriving “**any person**” of “**life . . . without due process of law**” or “**deny[ing] to any person . . . the equal protection of the laws.**”^[5]

We also hold that the Freedom Tower is a symbol of our Nation and express our displeasure that it has now been defiled and been allowed to be used as a political statement, letting the world think our country does not care about our children. We believe that the family is the basic and fundamental unit of society and must be protected at all costs.

Attached are members of the Kansas Legislature that wish to express their utter and complete disapproval for the disregard of the unborn children of the State of New York. The moral degradation of society can be directly linked to the lack of family and the disregard for human life that now permeates our society.

Submitted in Solidarity,



Representative Stephen Owens

*Drafted with the assistance of Representative Jesse Burris

[1] *See, e.g.*, *Declaring Independence: The Origin and Influence of America's Founding Document* Christian Y. Dupont & Peter S. Onuf eds., 2008)

[2] Thursday, July 4, 1776, *reprinted in 5 Journals of the Continental Congress 1774 – 1789* at 509, 510 (Worthington C. Ford ed., Washington, D.C., U.S. Government Printing Office 1906) (reproducing “The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen United States of America”).

[3] *See id.*

[4] *Id.*

[5] *See* U.S. Const. amend. XIV, § 1, *reprinted in* Robert Brady, *The Constitution of the United States of America, As Amended*, H.R. Doc. No. 110-50, at 16 (United States Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 2007), *available at*

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CDOC-110hdoc50/pdf/CDOC-110hdoc50.pdf> (bolding and italicizing added).

District Legislator Signature

Legislator Name

| District | Legislator Signature | Legislator Name |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 85 | | MICHAEL CAPPS |
| 98 | | Ron Howard |
| 97 | Berece Erickson | Berece Erickson |
| 62 | Randy Garber | Randy Garber |
| 59 | | Cheryl Helmer |
| 61 | Francis Awckamp | Francis Awckamp |
| 80 | Bill Philey | Bill Philey |
| 111 | Barbara K Wasinger | Barbara K Wasinger |
| 26 | | Adam Thomas |
| SD 8 | Jim Denning | Jim Denning |
| 75 | | Will Carpenter |
| 51 | Ronald L. Highland | Ron HIGHLAND |
| 73 | Les Mason | Les Mason |
| 97 ^m | | Nick Hobeisel |
| 94 th | | Leo G. Dalperdang |
| 82 | Jesse Burnis | Jesse Burnis |
| 4 th | Trucker Jacobs | TRUCKER JACOBS |
| 87 | Blake Carpenter | BLAKE CARPENTER |
| SD 10 | Mary Pitcher-Cook | Mary Pitcher-Cook |
| 8 | Christopher D. Croft | CHRISTOPHER D. CROFT |
| 114 | Jack Thimeck | Jack Thimeck |
| 116 | | Kyle D. Hoffman |

District Legislator Signature

Legislator Name

| District | Legislator Signature | Legislator Name |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 79 | | Daniel R. Hawkins |
| 100 | | DANIEL R. HAWKINS |
| 70 | | John F. BARKER |
| 69 | | Jane Vickrey |
| 47 | | RONALD B. ELLIS |
| 12 | | Doug Pollex |
| 109 | | Troy L. Waymaster |
| 117 | | LEONARD A. MASTROIANNI |
| 90 | | STEVE HUEBERT |
| 54 | | Ken Corbett |
| 110 | | Ken Poligo |
| 27 | | Sean Tarkenton |
| 2 | | Ken Collins |
| 91 | | Emil M. Bergquist |
| 104 | | Paul Waggoner |
| 39 | | Owen Donohue |
| 99 | | Susan Humphries |
| 14 | | Charlotte J. Esau |
| 124 | | Martin Long |
| 28 | | Kellie Warren |
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