MEMORANDUM

TO: All Priests and Deacons

All Pastors and Bulletin Editors

RE: 'Decline to Sign' Advisory from the Nevada Catholic Conference

DATE: 19 March 2024

Dear Pastors and Bulletin Editors; Dear Priests and Deacons,

The Nevada Catholic Conference (NCC) met this past week to discuss current ballot initiatives which seek to introduce a constitutional amendment to enshrine abortion into the Nevada State Constitution.

Signatures are already being gathered, and there may not be a way to prevent these ballot initiatives from moving forward. However, the NCC wants the Catholic faithful of Nevada to be educated on this moral issue, and properly informed on the steps being taken, so as not to feel coerced to sign when approached in various venues throughout the state.

The NCC has prepared the attached bulletin insert and attached informational flyers for all parishes, both in English and in Spanish. We ask that you place the insert in your Easter bulletin and on your parish website. You may continue to run this in your bulletin / website throughout the signature gathering period (June 2024). The flyers you may distribute in your parishes or keep in your literature racks as you see fit. Should the requisite number of signatures for the ballot initiatives be reached, the Nevada Catholic Conference will provide an updated Advisory for you to share with the faithful.

As a reminder, do not distribute information on this issue that does not come from the Nevada Catholic Conference, as it could threaten the Church's tax-exempt status. This public policy Advisory comes not from the Diocese of Reno, nor from her parishes, but from the Nevada Catholic Conference, the official public policy voice of the Catholic Bishops in the State of Nevada.

Thank you for your prompt response to this request of the NCC, providing the faithful with clear teaching on a pressing moral issue currently being debated in Nevada.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most. Rev. Daniel H. Mueggenborg

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Bishop of Reno