

TEXAS STATE COUNCIL 2025 CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

1. Resolution in RE: DEDICATION OF THE CONVENTION TO THE AID AND SUPPORT AFTER PREGNANCY (ASAP) RESOURCE PROGRAM

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL MEN AND WOMEN the Knights of Columbus in Texas and the Texas State Council dedicate the 121st annual convention to the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) Resource Program, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Church are and have always been supportive of and dedicated to the sanctity of all human life from conception through natural death, and

WHEREAS the ASAP program was founded to coordinate and multiply efforts of the Knights of Columbus to support pregnant women, babies and mothers through support and service to pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes, and

WHEREAS pregnancy resource centers provide assistance to more than 2 million beneficiaries each year, and are in dire need of continuing financial and material support to continue their pro-life mission, and

WHEREAS support provided through ASAP consists of both financial support in the form of direct donations, fund raising drives, and open houses, as well as material assistance including donations of baby items, clothes, and other items urgently needed by pregnancy resource and maternity aid facilities, and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council has instituted a matching program, supplementing every \$500 donation from a Council, Assembly, District, or Diocese, with an additional \$100 donation from Supreme Council to the same qualifying organization, and

WHEREAS last year, the Knights of Columbus collectively donated more than \$500 million through ASAP to support pregnancy resource and maternity centers worldwide, and

WHEREAS our First Lady, Margo Alonzo, has dedicated the Texas Ladies' fundraising program to the support of ASAP's mission during State Deputy Ron Alonzo's administration, and

WHEREAS the Texas Knights of Columbus are committed to leading the Order in support for pregnant women, mothers, and babies,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus, assembled in Corpus Christi, Texas on April 25-27, 2025, hereby dedicate this convention to the ASAP mission, honor all pregnant women, babies and mothers, and recommit

to the support of all life from conception through natural death, and that this resolution be placed in the official minutes of the Convention.

Submitted: State Officers

2. Resolution in RE: PRAYERS FOR ALL PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

WHEREAS Christianity began over two-thousand years ago in the Middle East, with the early Christians even then suffering persecution and martyrdom for their beliefs, providing an enduring example of strength of faith spanning two millennia and leading to countless Saints; and

WHEREAS Christians in the Middle East have been reduced to less than 1-2% of the population, fleeing their homes, abandoning their country to save their lives because they are Christians; and

WHEREAS Christians in China are facing an escalation of persecution solely based on their Christian faith, with forcible detentions including, Pastors, and Christians and their families; and

WHEREAS the 2025 World Watch List documented 50 countries where being a Christian or following Jesus is dangerous. Additionally, this worldwide persecution is estimated to affect over 380 million people who “now experience high, very high, or extreme levels of persecution and discrimination—that’s 1 in 7 Christians worldwide;” and “3,944 Christians sexually assaulted, harassed, or forcibly married to non-Christians, 54,780 Christians beaten, threatened, or physically and mentally abused, 209,771 Christians forced to leave their homes, to go into hiding or exile, 4,744 Christians detained, arrested or sentenced for faith-related reasons, 28,367 attacks on Christian homes, shops and businesses, and 4,476 believers killed for their faith” according to Open Door researchers; and

WHEREAS the U.S. and international news media have attacked Christians and Catholics; and

WHEREAS many nations have either remained silent or refused to assist the refugees in the face of the unspeakable and brutal violence and persecution; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus established the Christian Refugee Relief Fund (now called Persecuted Christians Fund) in 2014, enabling aid to displaced Iraqi and Syrian Christians and other persecuted Christians;

WHEREAS His Holiness, Pope Francis has urged the international community to respond to this immense humanitarian tragedy; and

WHEREAS His Holiness, Pope Francis has spoken of the significant contributions Christians have made to the Middle East and the importance of their continued presence in the region; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Texas State Council recognizes and offers our prayers and support for Christians and their families being persecuted across the globe, for defending and living our Christian faith and the fundamental freedoms we stand for; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council wishes the very best of God's continued and abundant blessings upon all persecuted Christians worldwide.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council and all subordinate Councils in Texas will continue to support our Supreme Knight and the Supreme Council's efforts to provide moral and financial support for our displaced Christian brothers and sisters and pray for all the victims of the current persecution; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council calls upon the President of the United States to work with the Congress, State and local governments, and the leaders of other nations to find a compassionate solution that would allow legitimate victims of this current persecution to find safety and shelter in this country and others while still maintaining an effective deterrent from those who would seek to commit acts of violence and terror; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all the delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

3. Resolution in RE: APPRECIATION FOR OUR BISHOPS AND CLERGY

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus, an organization of Catholic men founded by a priest, has always held the priests of our Church in especially high regard and has always invited and welcomed all priests into our membership, and out of profound respect for their unique position and authority as representatives and leaders of the Church, has always held open our meetings and ceremonies to priests even if they were not members; and

WHEREAS, His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo has served as the metropolitan archbishop of Galveston-Houston since February 28, 2006, ministering to over 2 million Catholics and 7.1 million people within the Archdiocese; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal DiNardo was born on May 23, 1949, in Steubenville, Ohio, and pursued his education at prestigious institutions, including the Catholic University of America, the Pontifical Gregorian University, and the Patristic Institute Augustinianum; and

WHEREAS, He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Pittsburgh on July 16, 1977, and served in various capacities, including parish pastor, seminary professor, and spiritual director; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal DiNardo was appointed coadjutor bishop of Sioux City, Iowa, in 1997 and later became the Diocesan Ordinary on November 28, 1998; and

WHEREAS, He was named coadjutor bishop of Galveston-Houston in January 2004, elevated to coadjutor archbishop in December 2004, and succeeded as Archbishop of Galveston-Houston on February 28, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Pope Benedict XVI elevated him to the College of Cardinals on November 24, 2007, at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal DiNardo has served in numerous leadership roles, including as President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops from November 2016 to November 2019; and

WHEREAS, His commitment to service extends to various committees and boards, including the Committee on Pro-Life Activities, the Committee on Divine Worship, and the Board of Trustees of The Catholic University of America; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness Pope Francis graciously accepted Cardinal DiNardo's resignation upon his attainment of his 75th birthday;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we honor and commend His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo for his exemplary leadership, dedication to the Catholic faith, and tireless service to the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and the broader Catholic community in the United States.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize Cardinal DiNardo's significant contributions to the Church and society, and express our gratitude for his years guidance and pastoral care, and wish him peace, good health, and long life in his retirement.

WHEREAS, His Excellency Most Reverend Joe Steve Vásquez has faithfully served as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Austin since his installation on March 8, 2010, ministering to over 700,000 Catholics across 25 counties in Central Texas; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Vásquez was born on July 9, 1957, in Stamford, Texas, and pursued his theological education at the University of St. Thomas in Houston and the Gregorian University, North American College, in Rome; and

WHEREAS, He was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of San Angelo on June 30, 1984, by Archbishop Joseph A. Fiorenza, and served in various pastoral roles in the Diocese of San Angelo from 1985 to 2002; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Vásquez was installed as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston in January 2002, where he served as Vicar General/Chancellor and Episcopal Vicar for Hispanics; and

WHEREAS, He has served on numerous committees of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, including as Chair of the Committee on Migration, and has been a consultant to various other committees; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Vásquez has demonstrated exemplary leadership and dedication to his flock, embodying the spirit of his episcopal motto "Sígueme" ("Follow Me"); and

WHEREAS, On January 20, 2025, Pope Francis appointed Bishop Vásquez as the 9th Bishop and 3rd Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, recognizing his pastoral gifts and leadership abilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we honor and commend His Excellency Most Reverend Joe Steve Vásquez for his exemplary service to the Diocese of Austin, his commitment to the Catholic faith, and his tireless efforts in serving the people of God.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Bishop Vásquez on his appointment as Archbishop of Galveston-Houston, and express our gratitude for his years of dedicated ministry in the Diocese of Austin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we offer our prayers and best wishes to Bishop Vásquez in his new role as Archbishop of Galveston-Houston that started March 25, 2025, confident that he will continue to be a shepherd after the heart of Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

WHEREAS, His Excellency Most Reverend Greg Kelly has been appointed by Pope Francis as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Tyler, Texas, effective February 24, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Kelly, born in Le Mars, Iowa, and raised in Colorado Springs, Colorado, has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to the Catholic faith, inspired by his parents' devotion to the Church, the Eucharist, the Blessed Mother, and the Rosary; and

WHEREAS, He pursued his priestly formation at Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving, Texas, and was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Dallas on May 15, 1982, by Bishop Thomas Tschoepe; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Kelly has served the Diocese of Dallas for more than four decades in various capacities, including parochial vicar, chaplain, founding pastor, Vicar for Clergy, vocations director, and interim rector; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of his exemplary service, he was named monsignor by Pope Benedict XVI in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Kelly was ordained as auxiliary bishop of Dallas on February 11,

2016, and has since served as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, as well as apostolic administrator for the diocese from 2016 to 2017; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his ministry, Bishop Kelly has demonstrated unwavering dedication to serving the faithful, supporting his fellow clergy, and fostering vocations within the Church; and

WHEREAS, His appointment to lead the Diocese of Tyler, which comprises 23,443 square miles and serves 121,212 Catholics across 33 counties, is a testament to his pastoral gifts and leadership abilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we honor and commend His Excellency Most Reverend Greg Kelly for his exemplary service to the Catholic Church and his appointment as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Tyler.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Bishop Kelly on his new role and express our gratitude for his years of dedicated ministry in the Diocese of Dallas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we offer our prayers and best wishes to Bishop Kelly as he prepares to assume his responsibilities in the Diocese of Tyler, confident that he will continue to serve as a shepherd after the heart of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, for the people of East Texas.

WHEREAS Texas State Council Knights of Columbus is deeply grateful for the many benefits rendered to our organization and the 121st Annual State Convention by the Bishops and clergy in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS we wish to always renew and do hereby reaffirm our pledge to continue to be the strong right arm of the Catholic Church and to always support and defend our Bishops, priests, and other members of the clergy and religious; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus in the 121st Texas State Council convention duly assembled in Corpus Christi, Texas, does hereby express our deepest gratitude to all Bishops and clergy, and particularly to his Excellency, the Most Reverend Wm. Michael Mulvey, Bishop of the Diocese of Corpus Christi, our State Chaplain and the Reverend Father Tommy Chen, our Associate State Chaplain, along with each of the Arch-Bishops and Bishops for the Dioceses of Texas; the Council and Chapter Chaplains, the Assembly and District Friars of Texas, and all clergy who aid in making the spiritual aspect of our meetings and this convention more meaningful, our sincere appreciation and our thanks for their inspiration, cooperation, and counsel.

Submitted: State Officers

4. Resolution in RE: MEMORIAM

WHEREAS Almighty God has called home many of our Brother Knights since our last convention; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this convention pause during our Memorial Mass to join our Worthy State Chaplain, Bishop Wm. Michael Mulvey, and Associate State Chaplain Reverend Tommy Chen in prayer for the repose of the souls of our departed Brothers whose names are listed in the “In Memoriam” booklet, and of all Brother Knights who have passed away in prior years; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that each Grand Knight assume the responsibility of notifying the members of his Council and calling the Brothers together at the time of the death of a member of his Council to have a Mass offered for the repose of his soul; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that each Council holds appropriate Commemorative Exercises and Masses during November to pay tribute to their deceased Brothers.

Submitted: State Officers

5. Resolution in RE: HONORING MARK JOHNSON

WHEREAS Brother Sir Knight Mark Johnson has been a dedicated and integral member of the Texas State Council team for many years, and

WHEREAS Brother Johnson became a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1991 after being recruited by his friend and Brother Knight Shaun O’Brien, and

WHEREAS, Johnson was asked by Brother Knight Scott MacDonald to assume a new position as Texas State Council Photographer, a position in which he served for 30 years, attending, documenting, and memorializing the important business and activities of the Texas State Council and Knights across the great State of Texas with over 250,000 photographs, and

WHEREAS Johnson assumed the additional task of assisting the Texas State Council in joining the 21st Century by designing, implementing, and managing the computers and office network at the Texas State Council offices, and

WHEREAS Johnson wrote the database program for all Texas State Council records, as well as the registration program for our annual conventions, and

WHEREAS Johnson took over the defunct website of the Texas State Council and, with his team, wrote custom software and produced an entirely new, modernized, and interactive website, keeping pace with best practices and technology while renewing and revitalizing the website multiple times over the years, and

WHEREAS Johnson created the online registration portal, dues portal, and charity contribution portal for the Texas State Council, providing vital framework for the success of the Texas State Council for many years and,

WHEREAS Johnson also served the Texas State Council when appointed as the editor for the State Deputy Newsletter Frontline Focus, and

WHEREAS Johnson, at the request of PSD Lou Barbour, took over the duties of editing and managing the quarterly publication of the Texas State Council, the Texas Knight, producing printed updates to Brother Knights across the state and ultimately, at the request of PSD Doug Oldmixon, transitioning to a digital publication as well as a digital news application and website available to all Knights, and

WHEREAS Johnson designed and printed the State Directory, Star Guide, Annual Report, Convention forms booklet, Convention ad publication, and the Convention supplement every year until this past fraternal year, and

WHEREAS Johnson has expressed to the State Officers his gratitude and enjoyment in working with the Texas State Council and his opportunity to serve in a ministry he considers his calling, and

WHEREAS Johnson has also expressed his gratitude to every Past State Deputy of the Texas State Council and, likewise, the Past and present State Deputies and State Officers are grateful to Brother Johnson for his years of tireless service to the Knights of Columbus,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus, assembled in Corpus Christi, Texas on April 25-27, 2025, hereby honor and thank Brother Sir Knight Mark Johnson for his service to the Texas State Council and the Knights of Columbus and congratulate him on his retirement from the many duties and roles that he undertook in service to the Texas State Council.

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

6. Resolution in RE: APPRECIATION OF HOST COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS

WHEREAS Knights of Columbus members of the Corpus Christi State Convention Committee are graciously serving as hosts to the 2025 State Convention of the 121st meeting of

the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS such Committee, as our host, has extended to us warm, sincere greetings and hospitality as well as consistent cooperation in all requirements, making the duties of the officers and staff easier to discharge;

WHEREAS our conventions would not be possible without the numerous contributions and assistance of countless volunteers, family, and friends of the Knights of Columbus;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus hereby extends to the officers and members of the Corpus Christi State Convention Committee and their wives our sincere appreciation and profound thanks for the cordial welcome, excellent workmanship, and fine hospitality shown to all members in attendance.

Submitted: State Officers

7. Resolution in RE: CANONIZATION OF FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY

WHEREAS since 1978 the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus has been pursuing the cause for the canonization of our founder, Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney; and

WHEREAS in 2008, Pope Benedict XVI approved a decree recognizing the heroic virtue of Father Michael J. McGivney, and whose declaration significantly advances his progress toward sainthood giving Father McGivney the distinction of “Venerable Servant of God”; and

WHEREAS the Church continues to study and investigate the life and work of our founder Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney, which also includes examining a possible miracle manifested through the intercession of Blessed Father McGivney; and

WHEREAS on January 10, 2006, the book titled Parish Priest Father Michael McGivney and American Catholicism, a biography of our founder, was published and made it to the New York Times Best Sellers list; and

WHEREAS to further promote devotion to Blessed Father McGivney, in 2013 the Texas State Council commissioned the first devotional icon of our beloved founder, the original of which hangs in the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven and copies of which are available at www.tkofc.org; and

WHEREAS the Father McGivney Guild has been established to help further the goal of saintly recognition for this worthy priest, and currently has a membership of over 150,000 individuals, and of these, 7,964 in Texas;

WHEREAS his Holiness Pope Francis recognized Father McGivney’s miracle and thereby Beatified Father McGivney, on October 31, 2020, raising Father McGivney to Blessed; and

WHEREAS additional possible miracles are being investigated in hopes of advancement of Father McGivney’s cause for canonization, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the *Texas State Council, Knights* of Columbus in Convention duly assembled in Corpus Christi, Texas, do hereby fully support the Supreme Council in this cause, and continue to pledge our ongoing prayers for the canonization of this great and noble priest and encourage Texas State Council members and all Catholics to join the Father McGivney Guild and pray for his canonization; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council encourages local councils to maintain and make available copies of our founder’s biography for all Knights to read and share, and display a framed copy of the devotional icon in all council chambers and to give the icon as appreciation gifts to our bishops, pastors, chaplains and others in recognition of special service accomplishments; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

8. Resolution in RE: IN SUPPORT OF A CULTURE OF LIFE

WHEREAS the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus and the Texas State Council have demonstrated a deep, historic, and consistent opposition to all governmental actions and policies that promote abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, and other offenses against life; and

WHEREAS the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus and the Texas State Council have continued to reaffirm an uncompromising commitment to the sacred nature of God’s gift of Life, to Natural Law, and continued encouragement to members, Councils, and their families to continue advocating and promoting life—from natural birth to natural death—and to work within our communities to promote a Culture of Life that respects all human beings, particularly women and the unborn; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus have supported our bishops in opposition to capital punishment; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus believe that the life is given by God and should not be taken for any reason, that the gift of life and suffering can be a testament to faith and devotion to God’s plan, and that euthanasia is an unwarranted departure from God’s plan; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus’ Ultrasound Program allows the Knights to fund the purchase of Ultrasound machines to provide the parents and families of unborn children a window

into the mother's womb that allows them a clear glimpse of God's gift of life; and

WHEREAS the Order is committed to providing continuing support and encouragement to mothers and fathers who choose life through the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus and the Catholic Church strongly encourage adoption and believe that every child is wanted, loved, and deserving of a forever home; and

WHEREAS the Texas State Council continues to support federal and state investigations into Planned Parenthood's immoral and illegal activities and continues to favor the passage of any legislation that would ban the illegal and immoral use or sale of any human fetal body parts or tissue; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting public demonstrations and rallies for the cause of life, particularly in Texas, specifically the Pro-Life Masses, Marches, Hikes-for-Life, and candlelight vigils.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council continue to support laws and other governmental actions prohibiting abortion, destructive embryonic stem cell research, euthanasia, and continues to call for legislation and regulations that require parental notification and consent for minors seeking an abortion, and will continue to seek the restoration of full legal protection for the lives of the unborn, the sick, persons with disabilities and the elderly; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus will continue to uphold and advocate the traditional teaching of the Church concerning the death penalty, as explained in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and that we call upon the Supreme Convention to include opposition to the death penalty in any pro-life resolution it considers and passes; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we pledge to continue the activities of the Knights of Columbus at all levels to inform, educate and motivate both our members and the public at large, including public officials who take a so-called "pro-choice" position, regarding the dignity and sanctity of human life at all stages and the evils of abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide, the death penalty, and other offenses against life; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we affirm our policy of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event, persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support legal protection of unborn children or who advocate the legalization of euthanasia, and not bestowing upon them honors or privileges of our Order of any type; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the United States Congress to act swiftly and decisively in denying all public funding and support for Planned Parenthood, and submitting this legislation to the President of the United States upon whom we call to sign it into law; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we commend and congratulate the Texas Legislature—and the Legislatures and Assemblies of the other States and Commonwealths of the United States—to continue investigating Planned Parenthood and that it acts swiftly and decisively in denying any and all public funding and support for Planned Parenthood and submitting this legislation to the Governor of Texas, upon whom we call to sign it into law; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we staunchly oppose any and all efforts by the U.S. Congress, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, and any State Legislature, State regulatory agency, and any local, county, or municipal government that would force private or public employers, health plans, health institutions and providers to offer services that deprive individuals and institutions of their freedom of conscience by taking away the liberty to follow ethical, moral or religious beliefs; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that while recognizing the natural rights of parents and the dignity of children, we urge the United States and Texas governments to streamline social services regulations and laws to facilitate adoption so that suitable families may welcome children who need stable parental care; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus continue to support in every manner possible the Gabriel Project, Project Rachel, and other similar ministries which provides women and men facing crisis pregnancies and post-abortion problems love, physical care, counseling, spiritual, emotional, and financial support; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

9. Resolution in RE: CALLING FOR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION IN PRO-LIFE MARCHES FOR LIFE

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus has a long history of supporting public demonstrations and rallies for the cause of life, particularly in Texas, specifically the Pro-Life Masses, Marches, Hikes-for-Life, and candlelight vigils; and

WHEREAS the March of Life that occurs in Washington D.C. unites, educates, and mobilizes pro-life people and organizations from across the United States; and

WHEREAS other states have held and conducted their own Marches for Life, particularly Texas, which holds its own March for Life in downtown Austin, Texas, where pro-life Texans march to the Texas State Capitol and demonstrate peacefully for the cause of life; and

WHEREAS since 2015, the officers of the Texas State Council of the Knights of Columbus, along with members and leaders of Texas Knights of Columbus councils, have marched in the Texas March for Life, alongside the Bishops, priests, and other pro-life supporters; and

WHEREAS local communities and parishes hold and conduct their own Marches for Life along with other pro-life groups and organizations.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council encourages Councils, members, and their families to continue to support and participate in the March for Life conducted in Washington D.C., the Texas March for Life conducted in Austin, Texas, and any other march for life or public demonstrations and rallies for the cause of life; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council and the Knights of Columbus call upon Councils to continue to work with their bishops, pastors, priests, and parish leaders in organizing, administering, and assisting with local Marches for Life conducted in their respective communities; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

10. Resolution in RE: SUPPORT FOR THE INSTITUTION OF TRADITIONAL MARRIAGE

WHEREAS marriage is a natural institution based on ancient human values that has been recognized as a unique and deeply rooted social, legal, and religious institution; and

WHEREAS marriage reflects the natural biological complementarity between a man and a woman, which is woven into the social and religious fabric of every major culture and society; and

WHEREAS marriage is a natural institution that predates the state, the state is therefore obligated to recognize, respect, and protect it; and

WHEREAS our Holy Father, Pope Francis, when speaking on the subject of marriage and the family, has said, “Children have a right to grow up in a family with a father and a mother capable of creating a suitable environment for the child’s development and emotional maturity;” and

WHEREAS his Holiness Pope Francis declared in his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia “that only the exclusive and indissoluble union between a man and a woman has a plenary role to play in society as a stable commitment that bears fruit in new life;” and

WHEREAS the Holy Father also stated that “Marriage is a precious sign, for ‘when a man and a woman celebrate the sacrament of marriage...he impresses in them his own features and the indelible character of his love;’” and

WHEREAS the Holy Father also stated in *Amoris Laetitia* that “By their witness as well as their words, families speak to others of Jesus. They pass on the faith; they arouse a desire for God, and they reflect the beauty of the Gospel and its way of life;” and

WHEREAS the Texas State Council Knights of Columbus and the Knights of Columbus Councils in Texas and their members wish to support and stand in solidarity with our Supreme Council, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, the United State Conference of Catholic Bishops, our Texas Bishops, and our clergy and religious regarding the fundamental and traditional recognition and definition of marriage as a holy and sacred union between one man and one woman, with that union being open to the creation of life.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council at its 121st annual meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas that the Knights of Columbus stand firm in our conviction that the only valid marriage that can exist is the exclusive and indissoluble union between a man and a woman; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all federal, state, and local government officials to enact legislation that will protect the sanctity of marriage and the sanctity of a family committed to bringing new life into the world; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

11. Resolution in RE: IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

WHEREAS the right to religious freedom is based upon the inherent dignity of the human person, which is known through both reason and divine revelation; and

WHEREAS the right to religious freedom is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Texas State Constitution, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

WHEREAS religious freedom means that all persons are to be free from coercion in matters of belief and conscience and that no person should be forced to act in a manner contrary to his or her own beliefs or conscience; and

WHEREAS in *Dignitatis Humanae*, the Second Vatican Council’s Declaration on

Religious Freedom, we reaffirm the Catholic Church’s consistent teaching that religious freedom is an inalienable right that should be recognized in the governing laws of each country in such a way that it is acknowledged as a basic civil right; and

WHEREAS religious freedom is not a benefit that a government confers out of a sense of mere tolerance, which can be removed, but rather is an inalienable right, rooted in the transcendent dignity of every human being; and

WHEREAS Pope Francis has called religious freedom, “a fundamental right of man,” that is “not simply freedom of thought or private worship,” but “the freedom to live according to ethical principles, both privately and publicly, consequent to the truth one has found;” and

WHEREAS religious freedom is at the very heart of human rights because it encompasses freedom of speech, assembly, and conscience, which together form the basis of civil society and respect for the individual; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus since its founding has worked to defend religious freedom for Catholics and all people, and has done so out of our commitment to our faith and our unshakeable belief that religious freedom is a basic civil right; and

WHEREAS the Order’s work on behalf of religious freedom included efforts in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, which affirmed the right of children to a Catholic education in opposition to the efforts of the Ku Klux Klan; and

WHEREAS in conformity with the support for religious freedom for Catholics and those of all faiths who value peace and the progress of humankind, the Order cannot condone antisemitism or other violent persecution of anyone based on their faith or heritage; and

WHEREAS our work for religious freedom also included activities to protest the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s, as well as efforts to combat the anti-religious worldview of Communism, Socialism, and the inclusion of the phrase “under God” in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance to distinguish the United States from anti-religious governments; and

WHEREAS regulatory actions by local, state, and federal agencies have sought to force private Catholic employers—such as Catholic universities, colleges, schools, orders, convents, congregations, dioceses, and the Knights of Columbus—to provide all employees with insurance coverage that includes abortion-inducing drugs, contraception, and sterilization; and

WHEREAS the numerous threats to religious liberty that have appeared in recent years are among the most serious intrusions on religious liberty we have seen in our lifetimes; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that as citizens and as Knights of Columbus, we will remain steadfast in our support for the free exercise of religion as it is enshrined in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Texas State Constitution, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we stand firm in our conviction that the full guarantee of religious liberty cannot be limited to “freedom of worship” as some have attempted, but must include full “freedom of religion,” which necessarily encompasses the public dimension of religion, the freedom from persecution or discrimination based on conscience and belief, and the fact that believers are called to play an active role in building the social order; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we stand in solidarity with our bishops in their call to the Catholic faithful, and to all Americans, to join together to oppose coercive regulatory schemes, orders, mandates, and also to protect religious liberty and freedom of conscience; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we call on the U.S. Congress to consider and pass a robust First Amendment Defense Act, which would protect the free exercise of religious beliefs and moral convictions of persons by preventing the federal government from taking discriminatory action against such persons in the areas of government contracts, benefits, tax treatment, accreditations and licensures; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all government officials in Texas to enact legislation that will protect the right of religious institutions and individuals to be free from government coercion in all matters; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we will join with others of goodwill to March for Religious Freedom each year in Austin, the capital of Texas, to demonstrate our resolve and to demand that government officials respect this God-given right; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that our struggle for religious freedom at this decisive moment in our history is not only for our sake but for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all future generations, so that they too may know a country that is “one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all;” and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

12. Resolution in RE: PRAYER FOR ALL GOVERNMENTAL LEADERS

WHEREAS in November 2024, the people of the United States elected a President, members of the House of Representatives and various Senators; and the people of Texas elected new members to the Texas Legislature and judges to courts at the county, district, and appellate levels; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council calls upon all

Councils, Assemblies, and Chapters to pray for our President, Governor, and all our elected officials at the federal, state, county, city, and local levels, that the Holy Spirit may counsel, insight and wisdom to keep the United States of America and our state and local communities on a path consistent with the Divine Will that we invoke daily when we pray the Lord’s Prayer – the “Our Father;” and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council encourages all members and their families to register and continue to vote in all federal, state, and local elections; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus supports the election and appointment of officials at the federal, state, and local levels of government who support and believe in a culture of life and the protection of religious freedom; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council encourages all members and councils in Texas to pray for our President, Governor, and all elected representatives, legislators, judges, and other government officials in hope that they will work together to defend life and to honor the religious and conscience concerns of all American citizens; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we, the Knights of Columbus and the Texas State Council, encourage all members and Councils to continue to encourage peaceful and respectful dialogue between all Americans and that we, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, find ways to bridge our differences in a respectful manner; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

13. Resolution in RE: SUPPORT FOR OUR ARMED FORCES

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus and the Texas State Council direct support for the armed forces dates back to the early 20th Century including the original KC Huts program and in the formation of the United Services Organization (USO); and

WHEREAS our support for the armed forces continues to the present day, most notably through our support of the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS) Co-Sponsored Seminarian Program, and support for the annual AMS—K of C Warriors to Lourdes Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes; France and

WHEREAS the Texas State Council and its subordinate councils have supported the Frontline Faith Project, which distributes recorded Catholic prayers, lectures, and teachings to our troops, and has reached out in a special effort to cooperate with the local units of the Catholic War Veterans of America; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council insurance program is the only domestic insurance company which pays the face amount of the policy upon the death of one of the members of our Armed Forces killed in combat rather than have a “war exclusion” clause as do other domestic insurance companies;

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus maintains 50 active military councils around the world and have one in the war-torn Horn of Africa; and

WHEREAS our Brother Knights, along with thousands of other servicemen and women, are presently deployed in hostile and unstable regions around the world in efforts to combat terrorism, maintain order and promote peace; and

WHEREAS the families of those courageous servicemen and women now deployed are praying for their safe return; and

WHEREAS many of these men and women have heroically given their lives or sustained a serious or debilitating injury while deployed in the service of their country; and

WHEREAS we are committed to “serving those who served” through the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services program, with Brother Knights donating thousands of hours of volunteer service at over 100+ Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers.

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus has demonstrated its commitment to “wounded warriors” by direct service, financial support, and partnering with other civic organizations and foundations to benefit those service members who have suffered traumatic injuries or wounds in the field of battle; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus has distributed hundreds of thousands of rosaries and copies of *Armed With The Faith*, a prayer book for service members; and

WHEREAS the Texas State Council and its subordinate councils have supported the Frontline Faith Project, which distributes recorded Catholic prayers, lectures, and teachings to our troops, and has reached out in a special effort to cooperate with the local units of the Catholic War Veterans of America; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council, all Knights of Columbus Councils and Assemblies in Texas reaffirm our unequivocal gratitude, support, and encouragement for the men and women of the armed forces who defend our liberties and freedoms and that we will never waiver in our commitment to recognize the contributions of every service member on Active Duty, in the Guard, in the Reserves, and all veterans and retired service members; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we prayerfully support and encourage the families of those servicemen and women who are deployed away from home; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we continue to pray for the mission success and the safe return of all our military personnel; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we now pay tribute to those men and women who have served, especially those who have suffered serious combat wounds or injuries, and we pray for the souls of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the service of their country; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council, Councils, and Assemblies in Texas will continue to support the Archdiocese of Military Services financially and with our prayers; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

14. Resolution in RE: SUPPORT FOR OUR FIRST RESPONDERS

WHEREAS Section 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 defines first responders as emergency management, public health, clinical care, public works, and other skilled support personnel that provide immediate support services during prevention, response, and recovery operations; and

WHEREAS the legal definition of emergency response/first responders generally includes Federal, State, and local government emergency, public safety, fire, law enforcement, emergency response, emergency medical (including hospital emergency facilities) and related personnel, agencies and authorities; and

WHEREAS first responders are generally considered and recognized to be local law enforcement officers, which in Texas include federal officers and Border Patrol agents, police officers, sheriffs, deputies, constables and dispatch and other support personnel, and firefighters, emergency safety responders such as medics, ambulance support persons; and

WHEREAS first responders serve by responding to events situations that require assisting, rescuing, and possibly defending members of the community from dangers and hazardous events that many times place first responders in harm's way; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus pray for the souls of first responders, law enforcement officers, firefighters, paramedics, and their families who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty in Texas; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus remain committed to continued support our first

responders and their families through the “Shield a Badge with a Prayer” Program, Red, White and Blue Masses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council and all Knights of Columbus Councils in Texas reaffirm our unequivocal gratitude, support, and encouragement for the men and women and their families who are first responders who protect us from harm with unselfish and professional dedication and that we will never waiver in our commitment to recognize the contributions of every first responder and their families; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that all Texas Councils continue to remain steadfast in supporting and praying for our first responders and their families through the Shield a Badge with Prayer Program and by scheduling, promoting and attending Red Masses, White Masses, and Blue Masses; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we prayerfully support and encourage the families of those first responders; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we continue to pray for the safe return of all our first responders; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we now pay tribute to those men and women who have served, especially those who have suffered serious injuries, and we pray for the souls of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the line of duty; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

15. Resolution in RE: SUPPORT FOR THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

WHEREAS on June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress established a national flag, resolving “that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a field of blue, representing a new constellation”; and

WHEREAS the banner adopted by the Second Continental Congress, hereinafter referred to as the “Flag,” has become the national symbol for the United States of America, the constellation of stars in the field of blue changing and evolving as new States entered the Union; and

WHEREAS in the 245-year history of the United States, the Flag has come to embody and reflect all aspects of American life, being displayed on government and privately owned buildings, flown by military and civilian vessels, displayed at political, social, educational, and religious events on a national, state and local level, carried by soldiers and explorers and raised by students and athletes at schools and athletic contests; and

WHEREAS throughout the history of the United States, the Flag has witnessed many of America's greatest, dramatic and tragic moments—the bombardment of Fort McHenry in 1814, the assault on Fort Sumpter in 1861, the funeral procession for Presidents Abraham Lincoln in 1865, and John F. Kennedy in 1963, the Olympic gold medal run by Jesse Owens at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, the battle on Iwo Jima in 1945, the Civil Rights Marches in the 1960s, the American landing on the Moon in 1969, the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001, the chaotic Afghanistan retreat, and many other events at different times in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS many of our ancestors—particularly our immigrant grandfathers and grandmothers—when coming to the United States from their original homelands, were greeted by the Flag when first stepping onto American soil; and

WHEREAS throughout the history of the United States, men and women of all races, ethnicities, and backgrounds have pledged their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor in the service of the United States, their sacrifices symbolized and represented by the Flag; and

WHEREAS while Americans can at times disagree on many issues, all Americans know that the Flag is our universal identifying national emblem; and

WHEREAS it has become a respectful tradition that all Americans honor the Flag in gratitude for the sacrifices made by all Americans in making our nation the home of the free and the refuge of those seeking the dream Dr. Martin Luther King so eloquently described and those seeking the sanctuary for life, liberty, and equality Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln so eloquently described; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus have always honored and respected the Flag, as exemplified by the Order's successful efforts to add the phrase "Under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council and its subordinate Councils remind all members to always show proper respect and reverence for the Flag of the United States of America, particularly by standing when the Flag is unfurled at any public event and for the National Anthem, and to continue to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at all meetings; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus rededicate themselves to encouraging the public display of the Flag at our churches, parish grounds, homes, places of business, and at social gatherings; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage our families, fellow parishioners, and countrymen and women in a charitable and fraternal manner to always show respect for the Flag by standing upon presentation of the Colors and for men to remove their hats during the playing of the National Anthem or the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance as a sign of respect for our all who built, supported and sacrificed to make our Country great and saluting the Flag by either

giving a military salute or by placing one's hand over their heart; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC and that the Supreme Council encourages the Supreme Convention to adopt this or a similar resolution that honors our Flag.

Submitted: State Officers

16. Resolution in RE: TO SUPPORT THE ANNUAL COMMEMORATION OF COLUMBUS DAY IN THE AMERICAS

WHEREAS Christopher Columbus was the first European to sail west in search of the Orient and to discover the American continents as a result, returning multiple times to explore and establish settlements in this New World, opening it to the enduring influence of Western civilization and also providing for the development of trade, commerce and prosperity; and

WHEREAS the Admiral of the Ocean Sea was not focused as a profiteer or adventurer, but rather as a faithful Catholic – a “Christ-bearer” – intent on spreading the Good News to the indigenous peoples as evidenced by his request to Pope Alexander VI for missionary priests to accompany him on his initial journey with these words “I trust that, by God’s help, I may spread the Holy Name and Gospel of Jesus Christ as widely as may be”; and

WHEREAS in the same spirit of evangelization, Father Michael McGivney and a small group of men chartered the Knights of Columbus to spread the Good News in a new way to address the challenges of the industrial era, by serving the temporal and spiritual needs of families and faith communities with programs that provide financial security and strengthen the social fabric with acts of charity; and

WHEREAS four hundred years after Columbus’ triumphant expedition, and ten years after the chartering of the Knights of Columbus, Pope Leo XIII recognized the important contribution of Columbus in his encyclical, Quarto Abeunte Saeculo, writing: “it is fitting that we should confess and celebrate in a special manner the will and designs of the Eternal Wisdom, under whose guidance the discoverer of the New World placed himself with a devotion so touching”; and

WHEREAS in this modern era the Knights of Columbus continue to respond fervently to the call to evangelize the cultures in which we have been placed by God, adapting to meet the acute challenges of consumerism, hedonism, sexual libertinism, and a profound loss of respect for the God-given values of human life, religious freedom, and traditional complementary marriages and families; and

WHEREAS in the spirit of acknowledging his extraordinary contributions, regional celebrations have been held since 1792, and a special public holiday was established in 1934 in the USA to celebrate the singular and enduring influence of the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that as Knights of the great Christopher Columbus, and all Christian men and women of goodwill, we will continue to celebrate the example of Christopher Columbus as a visionary and evangelist, both on the holiday set aside to honor his accomplishments and throughout the year, by placing our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, at the center of all our endeavors; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that Knights of Columbus in Texas will endeavor to celebrate the Columbus Day Holiday by attending Mass together and sharing a fraternal meal; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that we will, without diminishing the unique contributions of native peoples to the remarkable cultural tapestry of the Americas, encourage our public officials to preserve the intended spirit of the public holiday tradition with its cultural and patriotic implications, and not allow it to be undermined or diminished by neglect, dilution, or replacement; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that all Knights of Columbus endeavor and commit to speaking out in our communities before local, municipal, county, and state governmental agencies in support of the continued celebration of the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus and educate others regarding the positive aspects of his efforts, discovery, and legacy; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

17. Resolution in RE: THE ORDER'S INSURANCE BENEFIT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus was founded to provide crucial relief for widows and orphans of Catholic men with the foresight and courage to join the Order; and

WHEREAS our founder, the Servant of God Blessed Father Michael J. McGivney's vision initiated an institution that has become one of the largest fraternal benefits insurance companies in the United States; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus has earned the highest accreditation possible from two of the best known, and most respected insurance rating agencies, A. M. Best and Standard & Poor's, and as a World's Most Ethical Company by the Ethisphere Institute; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus Insurance program offers all members and their families the tools to prepare for the future and ensure financial stability, including life insurance, annuities, long-term care insurance, disability income, with over \$100 billion of life insurance in force; and

WHEREAS nearly 35 percent of Texas Knights are insurance members of the Order; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Columbus Financial Advisors ensure that all investments are socially responsible and adhere to the guidelines set forth by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, allowing the Order to provide “value with values” through faith-based investing; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Texas State Council at its 121st annual meeting in Corpus Christi, Texas, does commend the outstanding efforts of our general agents and our field agency force in Texas; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Texas State Council does affirm as its policy that all fraternal publications, including advertising for fraternal and fundraising events, including those of the Texas State Council, its subordinate councils, assemblies, and chapters are prohibited from accepting advertisements and news items relating directly or indirectly to the sale or servicing of life or disability income or long term care insurance or annuities, other than advertisements or news items promoting the Order’s insurance programs, and that violation of this rule by any publication from any subordinate council, assembly or chapter will constitute cause to prohibit the use of the name and emblem of the Order by those subordinate councils and/or their publications.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

18. Resolution in RE: PRAYERS FOR CONVERSION ON PRO-LIFE ISSUES OF ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS

WHEREAS a troubling number of our elected representatives have previously expressed intent to work for the passage of laws and to implement public policies which are clearly inconsistent with the Natural Law and the teachings of the Church, potentially destructive of family cohesion, and which deny basic human rights and the God-given value and dignity of each human life from conception to natural death;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus in Texas will vigorously oppose the erosion of protections currently contained in the law for the unborn and other vulnerable members of our society and will work ceaselessly for increased protections in general laws and in public policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus in Texas will continuously offer prayers for a conversion of heart for our President to a more generous and genuine support of all pro-life issues; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council

Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

19. Resolution in RE: PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

WHEREAS the Knights of the Texas State Council, pray for the nation's commitment to peace, after unprecedented years of violence and unrest; and

WHEREAS the Texas State Council and all of the Texas State Council brothers pray for the healing of our country, that has pitted brother versus brother, state versus state in an unprecedented attack against fellow countrymen; and

WHEREAS the Knights of Texas pray that elected leaders embrace and protect the U.S. and Texas Constitutions, including the first amendment that guarantees free speech and "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof;" and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Knights of Columbus in Texas, meeting at the 121st annual convention in Corpus Christi, Texas, prays the elected leaders be examples of honor and unity through their support of our Constitution, while accepting difference of opinions between citizens in accordance with the founding of our country, and the Great State of Texas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Supreme Council for the consideration and edification of all delegates attending the 143rd Supreme Council Convention in Washington, DC.

Submitted: State Officers

20. Resolution in RE: Knights of Columbus Blood Donor Program

WHEREAS, in 1938, the Knights of Columbus was the first national organization to have a blood donor program.

WHEREAS, the Knights offered their blood free of charge and lifted the financial burden for those receiving blood. The Knights gave their blood that others may live. Beforehand, it was the norm for donors to be paid for their blood donations.

WHEREAS, in 1938, two years before the Red Cross wartime blood drive, Knights of Columbus Council's worked with local hospitals to organize blood drives in centers set up by the Knights.

WHEREAS, Knights of Columbus Council's have mobilized blood donation campaigns

on the local, state and national levels, supporting and saving countless lives.

WHEREAS, today, Knights of Columbus blood drives collect an average of more than 400,000 pints of blood annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we remember and honor the 87 year charitable tradition of the Knights of Columbus in voluntarily, selflessly and generously donating life saving blood to those in need. We also resolve and pray that all Knights of Columbus members continually strive to become annual blood donors that others may live.

Submitted: Council 7641

21. Resolution in RE: No Solicitations or Displays at the State Convention or other Texas State Council Functions Except by Written Authorization of the State Deputy

WHEREAS in the past there have been numerous and varied solicitations conducted at activities sponsored under the auspices of Texas State Council of the Knights of Columbus, by groups of individuals seeking financial contributions, program participation, or donations of volunteer time or funds, and these activities are often sponsored by the standing and special committees of the State Council for the fraternal benefit, education or enjoyment of those participating;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that no solicitation or displays will be allowed at the State Convention or at other State Council functions except by written authorization of the State Deputy. It shall be the duty of the State Officers to enforce this resolution.

Submitted: State Officers