



March 15, 2019

Statement on Recent Pro-Life Victories

The Roman Catholic bishops of Kentucky applaud the Kentucky General Assembly for passing, in the 2019 Regular Session, a number of new laws that will provide legal protection for the unborn and support for pregnant women and new parents. Following the passage of a number of pro-life bills in recent sessions, such as protection for unborn children after the 20th week of pregnancy and strengthening of Kentucky's informed consent law, these newly passed bills will further ensure that unborn children will be protected and pregnant women will receive the support they need.

We particularly applaud the passage of HB 148, which will ensure full protection for unborn children when *Roe v Wade* is overturned, and HB 5, which will help curb abortions performed for discriminatory reasons, such as the race, sex, or physical disability of the unborn child.

We also wish to acknowledge the progress made so far on SB 18, which would provide much-needed support for pregnant women and nursing mothers in the workforce. Being pro-life requires defense of both unborn children and their mothers. We urge the General Assembly to grant final passage to this important bill when they return later this month.

HB 115, which would abolish the death penalty, received a record number of cosponsors. We are encouraged by the growing support for ending capital punishment in our Commonwealth.

We are proud to lead the Church in a state whose political leaders are so committed to the protection of unborn children. May we always stand for the dignity and defense of all life, born and unborn.

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