



Charles Perry  
Texas State Senator  
District 28

Dustin Burrows  
Texas State Representative  
District 83

March 14, 2022

Mayor Roy King Potter  
City of Shallowater  
PO Box 246  
Shallowater, TX 79363-0246

Honorable Mayor Potter,

It has come to the attention that the Sanctuary City for the Unborn ordinance is under consideration by the Shallowater City Council. We are encouraged by the consideration.

The State of Texas leads the nation in protecting innocent life, all within the confines of *Roe v. Wade*. The State has also provided a number of resources to help expectant mothers with alternative options. The Legislature recently doubled the amount it spends on the Alternatives to Abortion program to almost \$80 million and increased funding to over \$346 million for women's health programs providing essential medical services specific to women. This funding has created a network of healthcare providers across Lubbock County, providing women an array of healthcare services.

It should also be noted that this does not include the generosity of non-profits, churches, and healthcare professionals providing free or discounted services to women in the area. In addition to Medicaid and other federal programs that provide even more resources for women's health.

The battlefield to protect the unborn has shifted from the state to the local arena in recent years. For that reason, passing an ordinance designating Shallowater as a Sanctuary City for the Unborn will help to continue the Texas belief that life begins at conception, while also protecting the safety of mothers.

Since the passing of the same ordinance in Lubbock and many other cities across the country, the ordinance has been challenged at multiple judicial levels and prevailed as legal and enforceable. The heartbeat bill passed by the 87th Texas Legislature that contains similar provisions regarding enforcement has been tested at the Supreme Court of the United States and prevailed intact. It is true that lawsuits will continue and challenge prolife initiatives, but on the ordinance, the courts have left the ordinance intact.

Any potential cost of defense of this ordinance should not be used as a barrier to implementation. Therefore, Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mitchell Law PLLC has offered to provide an engagement letter to the City, pledging to provide legal defense at no cost to the city or taxpayers should it be needed. Mr. Mitchell has provided his contact information in a separate letter to the City of Shallowater.

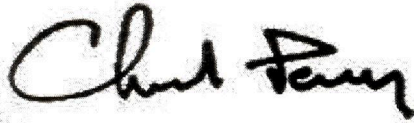
Since the passage of the ordinance in Lubbock as well as the Heartbeat bill, thousands of babies are approaching their first steps, coming up on the one-year mark.

If your City Council chooses to pass this ordinance you can rest assured that you would be representing your constituency well. During our Republican Party Primary on March 1, many of voters in Lubbock County had the opportunity vote on proposition #5. This proposition allowed Republican voters in our county the chance to vote "In Favor" or "Against" the statement: "Texas should enact a state constitutional amendment to defend the sanctity of innocent human life, created in the image of God, from fertilization until natural death." In our county 22,912 voted in favor of this statement and only 4,043 voted against this statement. That means 85% of the majority of voters in our county voted in favor of defending innocent human life from the point of conception till natural death.

2 Corinthians 10:5 "We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ".

The secular arguments will always be there. The Constitution of the United States that acknowledges the granting of our inalienable rights of life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness by a sovereign and singular creator cannot be ignored nor interpreted to be in conflict with the same creator, unless men in elected and appointed office allow it to happen by action or inaction.

Respectfully submitted,



Senator Charles Perry  
Senate District 28



Representative Dustin Burrows  
House District 83

cc: Mayor Pro Tem Chris Cody  
David Bruegel  
Jason White  
Troy White  
Kyle Yeager