

Resolution to Build a Pro-Life Texas After Roe

Whereas, the 2020 Platform of the Republican Party of Texas asserts that “all innocent human life must be respected and safeguarded from fertilization to natural death; therefore, the unborn, the aged, and the physically or mentally challenged have a fundamental individual right to life, which cannot be infringed” (Plank 328); and

Whereas, the Texas Heartbeat Act (2021) has already saved thousands of preborn children from abortion and has given Pro-Lifers a glimpse of what a post-Roe Texas will look like; and

Whereas, the Texas Legislature funding the Alternatives to Abortion program with \$100 million, which provides critical social services to Texas women and expecting families; and

Whereas, the United States Supreme Court is currently considering *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* over Mississippi’s 15-week abortion ban and whether to overturn *Roe v. Wade* which would return the issue of abortion policy to the states, where it belongs; and

Whereas, when *Roe v. Wade* is overturned Texas law will automatically prohibit all elective abortion and the state must adapt to a post-Roe world by continuing to prioritize Pro-Life policies that equip Texas women and families to choose Life; and

Whereas, the Texas State Budget wastes millions of dollars every biennium subsidizing frivolous programs and tax abatements that should be redirected and invested in equipping Texas women and their children to achieve long-lasting fiscal independence rather than generational reliance on the government;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Republican Party of _____ County recommends the Platform and the Legislative Priorities Committees of the State Convention adopt as both a Platform Plank and Legislative Priority a call for the Texas Legislature to pass legislation building a Pro-Life, not just an abortion-free, Texas in the wake of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned. On the verge of this historic accomplishment we recommend the following:

- A. Protect and increase funding to the Alternatives to Abortion Program;
- B. Ensure women have medical insurance coverage up to one year postpartum, making it safer for pregnant women to give birth in Texas;
- C. Safeguard pregnant and parenting college students from discrimination ensuring access to educational opportunities, benefits, accommodations, and support services;
- D. Encourage pregnant-friendly businesses in Texas by offering a tax break for accommodating to workers who are pregnant or new parents;
- E. Reform the adoption process to be more efficient, accessible, and affordable to streamline placement of children with loving families; and
- F. Reform CPS, ensuring vulnerable children are provided for and protected.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2022, at the Precinct Convention of Precinct # ____ of the _____ County Republican Party of Texas.

Background information for Resolution to Build a Pro-Life Texas After *Roe*

As we rapidly approach a world without *Roe v. Wade*, Texas must continue to intentionally build a Pro-Life State ready to promote the flourishing of Texas women, children, and families.

Why must Texas act? Health and Human Services Commission reported that 55,175 abortions were committed in Texas in 2020.¹ When SCOTUS overturns *Roe*, Texas must be ready to address the many hurdles that Texas families face during unexpected or difficult pregnancies.

What must Texas do to secure a Pro-Life post-*Roe* State? Texas must double efforts to provide support for pregnant women, preborn children, and their families to build an integrated Pro-Life Texas post-*Roe*. These policy recommendations include, but are not limited to:

- **Alternatives to Abortion Program (A2A)** - Texas must protect and increase funding for the life-affirming A2A program. This will continue to help pregnant women by providing critical social services from pregnancy centers, adoption agencies, and maternity homes.
- **Medical Insurance Coverage for Women** - Texas should protect medical insurance coverage for women up to a year after giving birth. This would combat the troubling trend of maternal mortality and morbidity, ensuring that Texas mothers are healthier than ever.
- **Defend Pregnant & Parenting Students** - Texas must defend pregnant and parenting students from discrimination during their educational pursuits. Having children should not disqualify anyone from participating in Texas' higher education institutions. While federal law prohibits this discrimination, state law can also protect pregnant students from educational penalties. These reasonable accommodations ensure students achieve their educational goals, leading to economic and social independence long-term.
- **Incentivize Pregnant-Friendly Businesses** - Texas businesses should receive tax incentives to accommodate pregnant employees. These businesses help Texas' young and growing families prosper and build a life-affirming culture.
- **Adoption Reform** - Texas must continue reforming the adoption process to be more efficient, accessible, and affordable. Our state should have the best adoption system in the country that works for birth mothers, children, and adoptive parents.
- **CPS Reform** - Texas must continue to improve the timing and quality of how Child Protective Services serves vulnerable children by placing them with loving families.

Solution: The Republican Party of Texas should add the "Build a Pro-Life Texas After *Roe*" Resolution to the Party Platform and Legislative Priorities for the 88th Legislative Session. In addition to ending abortion, Texas must continue building a Pro-Life State by emphasizing these life-affirming policies. This will allow Texas to be a shining example of the culture of Life to the rest of the country, and take vital steps toward protecting all innocent human life.

Is this fiscally conservative?

Investing in these women and families will provide them with economic and social stability. These recommended policies would help Texans with unexpected pregnancies avoid years of government dependence by encouraging them to finish their degrees without fear of losing scholarships or financial aid, and promote long-term employment opportunities for working parents. Policies that accomplish these goals will encourage long-lasting fiscal independence.

¹Texas Health and Human Services, <https://www.hhs.texas.gov/sites/default/files/documents/about-hhs/records-statistics/research-statistics/itop/2020/2020-itop-narrative-tx-residents.pdf>