



WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

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For Immediate Release

WCC COMMENTS ON VOTE TO ALLOW SECOND-TERM ABORTIONS

Barbara Sella, Associate Director for Respect Life and Social Concerns at the Wisconsin Catholic Conference, made the following statement on yesterday's vote by the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics Authority Board:

“First of all, we want to thank all those citizens who wrote or called the Board urging them to reject the proposal to allow second-term abortions at the Center. We also want to thank the three Board members who voted against this ill-considered policy.

This outcome only underscores our commitment to upholding the dignity of all human life and to persuading our fellow citizens that alternatives to abortion exist.

Later term abortions are most commonly sought by young, low-income women, or women who receive a diagnosis of a serious prenatal illness or disability. As a civilized community, we must support these women and their families—economically, emotionally, psychologically, and spiritually—so that they don't feel forced to take the lives of their unborn children.

No woman welcomes the prospect of having an abortion and all women deserve real alternatives. Instead of providing abortions, we urge the medical establishment to focus on providing the finest life-affirming medical care to mothers and their children. We urge them to establish perinatal hospice care so that mothers and infants can receive support from the moment a serious diagnosis is made. And we urge them to strengthen their partnership with local agencies so that low-income women facing unwanted pregnancies can have access to the resources they and their children desperately need—whether this means respite care, material support, or adoption services.

As a humane society, killing cannot be the answer to alleviating poverty and suffering. We call on all people of good will to work together so that all members of our human family are treated with the dignity they deserve.”

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