

VOTERS IN RAINS COUNTY, TX, THE PRO-LIFE ISSUE, & SCFTU ORDINANCES (12-16-25)

How pro-life are voters in Rains County? During the 2018 Republican Party Primary, voters in the Republican Party Primary had the opportunity to vote on proposition #7. This proposition gave voters the chance to voice their opinion if they were "In Favor" or "Against" the following statement: "I believe abortion should be abolished in Texas." In Rains County, out of 1,469 votes, 75.56% (1,110) voted in favor of the pro-life proposition while 24.44% (359) voted against the pro-life proposition.



During the 2022 Republican Party Primary, voters in the Republican Party Primary had the opportunity to vote on proposition #5. This proposition gave voters the chance to voice their opinion if they were "In Favor" or "Against" the following 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." The percentage of the pro-life vote was even greater in Rains County than two years prior. **In Rains County, out of 1,843 votes, 89.63% (1,652) voted in favor of the pro-life proposition while 10.36% (191) voted against the pro-life proposition.**

While Democrats did not entertain such propositions in their primaries, Kristen Day, who serves as the Executive Director with *Democrats for Life of America* has shared, "One out of every three Democrats support reasonable regulation of and limits on abortion. We support the county's right to protect preborn life and we urge all pro-life Democrats to support similar initiatives to protect life and truly empower women."

Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn Since June 11, 2019, a total of 91 cities and 16 counties across seven different states have passed local ordinances going as far as they can to prohibit abortion within their jurisdiction. 74 of these cities and 14 of these counties are in the State of Texas. Cities in Rains County that could pass a Sanctuary City for the Unborn Ordinance include: Emory (pop. 1,600), Point (pop. 1,050), East Tawakoni (pop. 883), and Alba (pop. 502). Rains County (pop. 12,164) could also pass a 'Sanctuary County for the Unborn' ordinance covering the unincorporated area of Rains County.

The Republican Party of Texas 2024 Party Platform and Sanctuary for the Unborn Ordinances
Several provisions found in Sanctuary for the Unborn Ordinances are in full alignment with pro-life planks found in the Republican Party of Texas 2024 Party Platform.

Plank #194(l). Pro-Life: Abortion is not healthcare, it is homicide. Until the abolition of abortion is achieved, we support laws that restrict and regulate abortion, including but not limited to . . . Supporting the right of Texas municipalities to protect mothers and their preborn children in their communities by passing enforceable city ordinances that further ban abortions within their city limits, closing loopholes in state abortion laws.

Plank #194(j). Pro-Life: We support laws . . . Extending the private cause of action used in the Texas Heartbeat Act to all pro-life laws and policies in Texas.

Plank #53. Prohibit Abortion Transportation Across State Lines: We support legislation to prohibit the use of any government funds, as well as the transportation of pregnant women across Texas' state lines, for the purpose of procuring an elective abortion and for the provision of a private right of action against all persons and organizations who aid and abet in the harming of the woman, and the killing of her preborn child.

Plank #142. Preventing Any Death by Abortion: . . . We support protecting preborn children and their mothers by stopping abortion pill distributors from sending and trafficking these lethal and illegal drugs into Texas and holding those accountable who break state Pro-Life laws by selling and trafficking illegal abortion pills.

our schools, our churches, and our hospitals. The Sanctuary for the Unborn ordinances seek to protect these institutions by putting safeguards in place to protect men, women, and their children for years to come. **These ordinances, which seek to close as many loopholes as possible, do not penalize women who seek or undergo abortions, but places the penalty on the party who most deserves it - the abortionist and the industry profiting from the unjust procedure, including abortion traffickers.**"

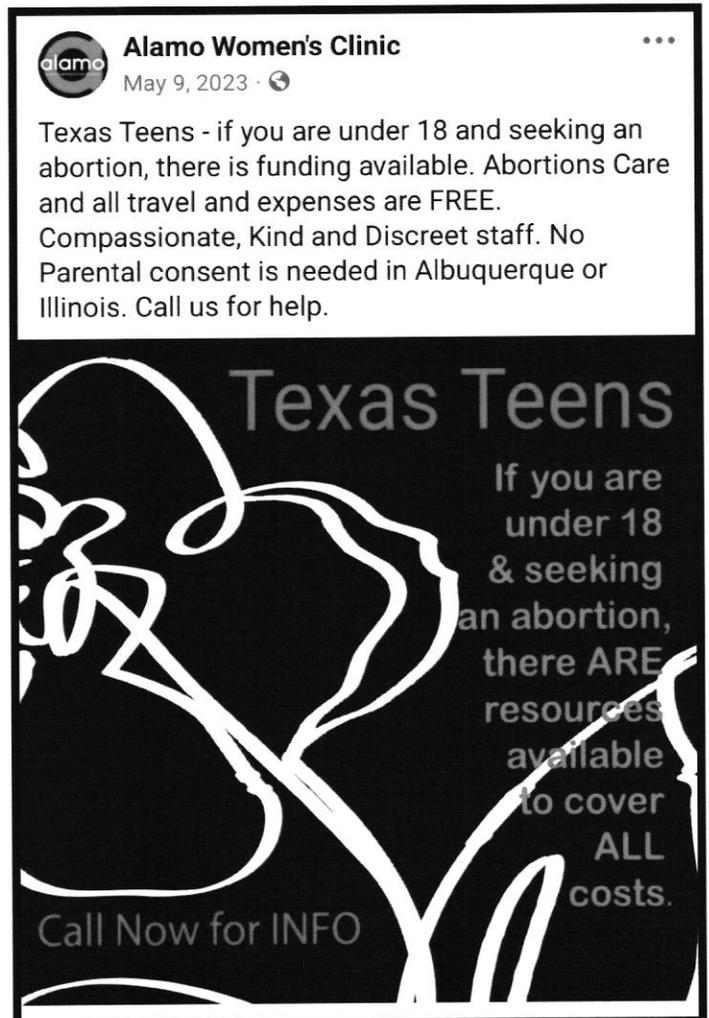
The Problem of Abortion Trafficking

These measures are extremely important because abortion facilities in New Mexico and other states are still committing abortions on Texas residents and are utilizing a variety of abortion trafficking organizations located in Texas to help pregnant mothers get to their state to end the lives of their unborn children. Those groups, involved in abortion trafficking, include: the Lilith Fund, Texas Equal Access (TEA) Fund, and Fund Texas Choice. These organizations provide financial support for Texas residents who are traveling outside the State of Texas for an elective abortion. Abortion trafficking organizations often assist with everything from flights, bus tickets, ride shares, and hotel stays to cash for gas, food, rental car fees, and anything else relating to their abortion travel experience.

In New Mexico and Illinois, abortion trafficking organizations have even helped Texas minors obtain abortions without parental consent.

In addition to the problem of abortion trafficking, there is also the problem of the mailing of abortion-inducing drugs into Texas. Deadly abortion-inducing drugs are being sent to Texas residents from all over the nation, sometimes even from other countries through groups like Aid Access and Plan C. A recent study *published by the Ethics and Public Policy Center (EPPC)*, found that *nearly 11% of women (10.93%) experience sepsis, infection, hemorrhaging, or other serious or life-threatening adverse events following a mifepristone abortion.*"

While abortion trafficking Texas residents outside of our state and abortion-inducing drugs being trafficked into our state are both horrible, the dead bodies of unborn children are also being trafficked into our state by Texas waste management companies and ending up in our local landfills. All of these horrible practices are addressed in Sanctuary County for the Unborn ordinances.



Alamo Women's Clinic
May 9, 2023 · 🌐

Texas Teens - if you are under 18 and seeking an abortion, there is funding available. Abortions Care and all travel and expenses are FREE. Compassionate, Kind and Discreet staff. No Parental consent is needed in Albuquerque or Illinois. Call us for help.

Texas Teens

If you are under 18 & seeking an abortion, there ARE resources available to cover ALL costs.

Call Now for INFO

How would the proposed SCFTU Ordinance be enforced? The proposed SCFTU Ordinance would be enforced the same way the Lubbock SCFTU Ordinance, Lubbock County SCFTU Ordinance, and the Texas Heartbeat Act are enforced - through a private right of action allowing private citizens to file a lawsuit against anyone violating the measure. This enforcement mechanism has had much success. Professor Josh Blackman, a law professor at South Texas College of Law Houston, addressed how Lubbock's Sanctuary City for the Unborn ordinance is enforced in a May 5, 2021 article published by *The Texan* titled, "[Lubbock Stakeholders, Lawyers Weigh in on Vague Future of Abortion Ban](#)," Professor Blackman stated:

“It’s actually a very clever ordinance, the way they’ve devised it. Usually, the way laws work is the government enforces it. So let’s say the city or county puts a restriction on abortion.... With the usual law, when the government enforces it, Planned Parenthood can bring what’s called a pre-enforcement challenge. It says, ‘Well, this law hasn’t been enforced yet, but they will enforce it, and when they do enforce it, we’ll have our rights violated. So we can sue now. This ordinance is different. It specifically says government, the Lubbock government, cannot enforce this law. Cannot. The only people who can enforce this law are private citizens...Why is this fact important? It’s almost impossible to do a pre-enforcement challenge when the government’s not enforcing it. In other words, they can sue the government – which they probably will try to – and the court will say, ‘Well, that’s nice, but the government can’t enforce this law, so what are you suing them for?’ There’s no way for a court to hear the validity of this law until someone actually brings a civil lawsuit.”

Professor Blackman is not the only law professor who has recognized the enforceability of the law. In her book *Roe: The History of a National Obsession*, published by Yale University Press, University of California Davis School of Law professor Mary Ziegler explained, “Generally, federal standing doctrine required not only that someone suffer a real injury at the hands of the defendant but also that a favorable judicial decision could provide some form of redress. When it came to redress, [Jonathan] Mitchell and [Senator Bryan] Hughes relied on a 2001 case called *Okpalobi v. Foster*.” Ziegler continued, “In 1999, Louisiana had passed a law allowing women to sue abortion providers for injuries to their unborn children. When abortion providers challenged the constitutionality of the law, the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals concluded that they lacked standing to sue the state because the government and its agents could neither stop private citizens from suing nor block state courts from entertaining suits. Hughes and Mitchell thought the same argument could apply to Waskom: because the sanctuary city ordinance assigned enforcement to private citizens, the city would have no authority to stop private citizens from suing, and courts would hold that any abortion provider hauling the city into court lacked standing to do so.” The success of this law was realized on June 1, 2021, when Lubbock’s Sanctuary City for the Unborn ordinance went into effect and the Lubbock Planned Parenthood complied with the law. Within a matter of hours, Judge James Wesley Hendrix ruled in the City of Lubbock’s favor. Ziegler wrote:

“District judge James Wesley Hendrix, whom Donald Trump had nominated in 2019, agreed with Lubbock that federal courts had no jurisdiction to hear the case because abortion providers lacked standing to sue. ‘Like the defendants in *Okpalobi*,’ Judge Hendrix wrote, ‘the city and its officials have no authority to prevent a private plaintiff from invoking the ordinance or to tell the state courts what cases they may hear.’”

A Few Statements from Elected Officials After their vote, Camp County Judge A.J. Mason shared, “*I am so proud of our commissioners court for the strong position taken on protecting the unborn. I can think of no greater cause to be a part of than defending those who can’t defend themselves. This is a great day.*” Upon hearing the news about the passage of the ordinance in Camp County, State Representative Cole Hefner wrote,

“While I couldn’t be there in person due to session in Austin, I’m incredibly proud to celebrate some powerful news out of Camp County this morning. With a unanimous 5-0 vote, the Commissioners’ Court passed an ordinance officially making Camp County a Sanctuary County for the Unborn – the first in East Texas, the eighth in our state, and the tenth in the entire nation to do so. This bold step not only outlaws abortion within the unincorporated areas of the county, but it also prohibits abortion trafficking and the aiding and abetting of elective abortions—even when those efforts begin or pass through Camp County.”

For more information, visit www.sanctuarycitiesfortheunborn.com. Mark Lee Dickson can be contacted by phone at 806-598-1919, by email at markleedickson@gmail.com, or through his website www.markleedickson.com.

**SANCTUARY CITIES
FOR THE UNBORN**

**CITIES WHICH HAVE PASSED ORDINANCES
PROHIBITING ABORTION IN THE U.S. (12-16-25)**

	CITY	POP.	DATE		CITY	POP.	DATE
001.	Waskom, TX	2,190	06-11-19	028.	Poynor, TX	314	05-11-21
002.	Omaha, TX *	1,021	09-09-19	029.	Lebanon, OH	20,529	05-25-21
003.	Naples, TX	1,378	09-09-19	030.	Levelland, TX	14,582	06-07-21
004.	Joaquin, TX	850	09-17-19	031.	Sundown, TX	1,397	06-08-21
005.	Tenaha, TX	1,160	09-23-19	032.	Sterling City, TX	888	06-21-21
006.	Gilmer, TX	5,216	09-24-19	033.	Centerville, TX	892	07-07-21
007.	Westbrook, TX	312	11-18-19	034.	Eastland, TX	3,970	08-04-21
008.	Rusk, TX	5,618	01-09-20	035.	Leona, TX	175	08-09-21
009.	Colorado City, TX	4,146	01-14-20	036.	Crawford, TX	733	08-10-21
010.	Gary, TX	311	01-16-20	037.	Brownsboro, TX	1,036	08-16-21
011.	Big Spring, TX	28,862	01-28-20	038.	Impact, TX	20	09-11-21
012.	Wells, TX	769	02-10-20	039.	Nazareth, TX	311	10-05-21
013.	Whiteface, TX	449	03-12-20	040.	Cisco, TX	3,913	10-12-21
014.	East Mountain, TX	797	07-20-20	041.	Mason, OH *	34,792	10-25-21
015.	New Home, TX	320	09-29-20	042.	Anson, TX	2,556	11-08-21
016.	Morton, TX	1,608	10-12-20	043.	Slaton, TX	6,235	12-13-21
017.	Ackerly, TX	251	12-01-20	044.	Jewett, TX	1,250	02-15-22
018.	Grapeland, TX	1,489	01-25-21	045.	Shallowater, TX	2,613	03-22-22
019.	Goldsmith, TX	257	02-10-21	046.	Pollock, LA	473	03-23-22
020.	Carbon, TX	348	02-22-21	047.	Lindale, TX	6,730	03-24-22
021.	Gorman, TX	1,083	03-04-21	048.	Marquez, TX	313	04-20-22
022.	Murchison, TX	606	03-09-21	049.	Willey, IA	101	05-02-22
023.	Latexo, TX	322	03-15-21	050.	Normangee, TX	778	05-19-22
024.	Hayes Center, NE	288	04-06-21	051.	Stapleton, NE	305	08-10-22
025.	Blue Hill, NE	941	04-13-21	052.	Hobbs, NM	41,604	11-07-22
026.	Lubbock, TX	264,000	05-01-21	053.	Athens, TX	13,121	11-08-22
027.	Abernathy, TX	2,839	05-10-21	054.	Abilene, TX	124,407	11-08-22

	CITY	POP.	DATE		CITY	POP.	DATE
055.	Arnold, NE	597	11-08-22	076.	Hooks, TX	2,769	07-21-25
056.	Paxton, NE	523	11-08-22	077.	Douglassville, TX	228	08-05-25
057.	Brady, NE	428	11-08-22	078.	Como, TX	758	08-07-25
058.	Hershey, NE	665	11-08-22	079.	Talco, TX	492	08-11-25
059.	Wallace, NE	366	11-08-22	080.	Annona, TX	288	08-12-25
060.	San Angelo, TX	101,612	11-08-22	081.	Clyde, TX	4,051	08-12-25
061.	Plainview, TX	22,343	11-08-22	082.	New Boston, TX	4,686	08-19-25
062.	Odessa, TX	125,413	12-13-22	083.	Avery, TX	462	09-25-25
063.	Clovis, NM	38,567	01-05-23	084.	Marietta, TX	115	11-12-25
064.	Little River-Academy, TX	2,048	01-12-23	085.	Wolfforth, TX	9,600	11-17-25
065.	Eunice, NM	3,026	01-23-23	086.	Roaring Springs, TX	219	12-08-25
066.	Edgewood, NM	6,154	04-26-23	087.	Olton, TX	2,288	12-08-25
067.	Danville, IL	28,787	05-02-23	088.	Sudan, TX	958	12-09-25
068.	Midlothian, TX	38,635	02-27-24	089.	Amherst, TX	671	12-09-25
069.	Muenster, TX	1,556	04-08-24	090.	Springlake, TX	145	12-11-25
070.	Ovilla, TX	4,709	12-10-24	091.	Tira, TX	319	12-14-25
071.	Mullin, TX	196	04-08-25				
072.	Moran, TX	285	04-15-25				
073.	Lueders, TX	346	04-18-25				
074.	Avinger, TX	371	04-30-25				
075.	Big Sandy, TX	1,343	05-13-25				

www.sanctuarycitiesfortheunborn.com

* Two city councils recanted their ordinances: (1) Omaha, Texas repealed their ordinance in exchange for a non-binding resolution on 10-14-19, after the ACLU filed an open records request. (2) Mason, Ohio repealed their ordinance on 12-13-21 after new leadership was elected to city council in the 11-02-21 election.

	COUNTY	POPULATION	DATE	COVERAGE
01.	Lea County, NM	76,432	12-08-22	Unincorporated
02.	Roosevelt County, NM	19,019	1-10-23	Unincorporated
03.	Mitchell County, TX	9,070	7-14-23	Unincorporated
04.	Goliad County, TX	7,012	8-28-23	Unincorporated
05.	Cochran County, TX	2,547	9-28-23	Unincorporated
06.	Lubbock County, TX	317,561	10-23-23	Unincorporated
07.	Dawson County, TX	12,130	12-18-23	Unincorporated
08.	Jack County, TX	8,875	04-22-24	Unincorporated
09.	Shackelford County, TX	3,105	04-15-25	Unincorporated
10.	Camp County, TX	13,094	04-30-25	Unincorporated
11.	Shelby County, TX	24,192	07-30-25	Unincorporated
12.	Hopkins County, TX	38,784	09-30-25	Unincorporated
13.	Dickens County, TX	1,725	11-10-25	Unincorporated
14.	Howard County, TX	34,860	11-24-25	Unincorporated
15.	Motley County, TX	1,063	12-08-25	Unincorporated
16.	Crosby County, TX	5,133	12-15-25	Unincorporated



New Mexico State Legislature

STATE CAPITOL
Santa Fe

October 18, 2023

To City Councils, County Commissions, and Local Officials throughout the State of Texas:

Since November 2022, several cities and counties throughout the State of New Mexico have passed “sanctuary for the unborn” ordinances in an attempt to do what is best for their communities. These cities and counties passed these measures in spite of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's demented desire to make New Mexico the abortion capital of America.

Since September 2021, when the Texas Heartbeat Act went into effect, we have seen over 1,000 abortions per month come into the State of New Mexico from the State of Texas. Not only has this influx of abortions caused the deaths of many innocent Texans, but it is putting an extreme burden on our limited healthcare system in New Mexico. This may lead to a significant health crisis in the State of New Mexico if reasonable measures are not passed on abortion trafficking within the State of Texas, as our health system cannot handle the significant number of emergencies that are the result of the influx of approximately 11,000 Texas abortions per year. As state legislators we stand concerned about the impact this has on the health, safety, and enjoyment of life of the residents of New Mexico and those who are visiting from the state of Texas.

While the ordinances passed in our cities and counties in New Mexico are different from the ordinances which have been passed in cities and counties throughout Texas, our communities are seeking to do as much as they possibly can to protect our communities under the leadership and the laws of the State of New Mexico. We are doing this despite facing overwhelming opposition from state leaders who are in lock-step with the most pro-abortion administration in the history of America.

Of course, we cannot fight the Biden Administration's radical abortion agenda alone. This is why it is a great encouragement to us that allies across the New Mexico-Texas border are considering proposals which would prohibit abortion trafficking into New Mexico. While we will never stop fighting for unborn life on our turf in New Mexico, the victory is made more achievable when cities and counties in Texas are doing their part to defend innocent human life as well.

Therefore, we, the undersigned, respectfully encourage city and county officials across the State of Texas to further the passage of ordinances outlawing abortion and abortion trafficking within their jurisdictions.

Sincerely,



DAVID M. GALLEGOS

State Senator



PAT WOODS

State Senator



JOHN BLOCK

State Representative



ANDREA REEB

State Representative



GREGG SCHEDES, M.D.

State Senator



JAMES G. TOWNSEND

State Representative



JENIFER JONES

State Representative



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AUSTIN

August 21, 2023

To: Texas City Councils, County Commissions, and Local Officials

During the 2019 Legislative Session, a bill was passed (Senate Bill 22) which prohibited tax dollars from funding abortion providers and their affiliates at the state and local level and included an amendment specifically clarifying that the bill does not prohibit cities and counties from banning abortion. Taking their cue from this amendment, on June 11, 2019, the City Council of Waskom, Texas, passed an ordinance banning all abortions within their city limits and prohibiting any abortion provider from doing business within the town's jurisdiction.

During the 2021 Legislative Session, the Texas Legislature made it even more clear that cities and counties could pass ordinances outlawing abortion when they passed Senate Bill 8 - also known as the Texas Heartbeat Act. This bill prohibited an abortion being performed on any child which is found to have a detectable heartbeat, but also included a section addressing the authority cities and counties have at prohibiting abortion in their jurisdiction. The law states in Texas Government Code § 311.036(b), "A statute may not be construed to restrict a political subdivision from regulating or prohibiting abortion in a manner that is at least as stringent as the laws of this state unless the statute explicitly states that political subdivisions are prohibited from regulating or prohibiting abortion in the manner described by the statute."

Currently there are over 50 political subdivisions in Texas which have passed local ordinances prohibiting abortion within their jurisdictions. As elected officials who voted for state legislation allowing these local actions, we are thrilled to see this wave of pro-life action at the local level and hope to see these ordinances continue to spread across our state - *even in a post-Roe Texas*. While it is true that abortion is outlawed in the entire State of Texas, from the point of conception, our work is far from over. Right now, throughout the State of Texas, women are being trafficked across our borders by abortion traffickers funded by abortion trafficking organizations still operating in our state. As a result, these women are being abused and traumatized by abortion across our Texas-New Mexico border and sent back to Texas for our cities and counties to deal with the aftermath taking place in our homes, our schools, our churches, and our hospitals. The Sanctuary for the Unborn ordinances seek to protect these institutions by putting safeguards in place to protect men, women, and their children for years to come. These ordinances, which seek to close as many loopholes as possible, do not penalize women who seek or undergo abortions, but places the penalty on the party who most deserves it -- the abortionist and the industry profiting from the unjust procedure, *including abortion traffickers*.

While we intend to do our part to keep our strong pro-life protections for mothers and their unborn children, we believe it will help for cities and counties to do their part as well. As state elected officials who are trusted by Pro-Life Texans to stand for life at every available opportunity, we believe this is a viable

and crucial opportunity for local governments to protect their most vulnerable members. We look forward to partnering with you as we seek to defend innocent human life at every level of government.

Therefore, we, the undersigned, respectfully encourage local government officials to do their part in the passage of ordinances outlawing abortion and abortion trafficking and declaring their cities and counties *Sanctuaries for the Unborn*.

Thank you for your consideration.

Signed,



Dustin Burrows
State Representative, House District 83



Carl Tepper
State Representative, House District 84



Charles Perry
State Senator, Senate District 28



Jeff Leach
State Representative, House District 67



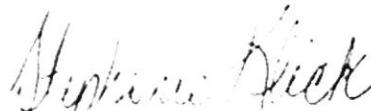
Briscoe Cain
State Representative, House District 128



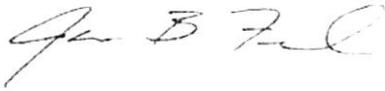
Jared Patterson
State Representative, House District 106



Greg Bonnen, M.D.
State Representative, House District 24



Stephanie Klick
State Representative, House District 91



James Frank

State Representative, House District 69



Cole Hefner

State Representative, House District 5



Bryan Hughes

State Senator, District 1



Mark Dorazio

State Representative, District 122



Tan Parker

State Senator, District 12



Donna Campbell, M.D.

State Senator, District 25



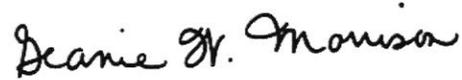
Ellen Troxclair

State Representative, House District 19



Mayes Middleton

State Senator, Senate District 11



Geanie W. Morrison

State Representative, District 30



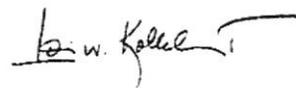
Matt Schaefer

State Representative, District 6



Carrie Isaac

State Representative, District 73



Lois W. Kolkhorst

State Senator, District 18

MITCHELL LAW

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December 16, 2025

Rains County Commission
Rains County Courthouse
167 Quitman Street
Emory, Texas 75440

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL

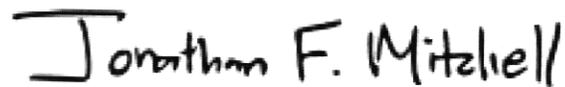
Dear Commissioners:

I understand that the Rains County Commission is considering whether to enact an ordinance declaring Rains County a sanctuary county for the unborn, an ordinance similar to those passed in 14 counties and 74 cities across the State of Texas.

I commit to you that Mitchell Law PLLC will represent Rains County, at no cost to the county or its taxpayers, in any litigation that results from a decision to enact this ordinance provided by Mark Lee Dickson.

Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jonathan F. Mitchell
Mitchell Law PLLC