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The heat is on in Texas

and the abortion industry is sweating

Karen Garnett, Executive Director

Catholic Pro-Life Committee of North Texas

Dear Friend of Life,

I write to you today with joy in my heart as we are experiencing victories for life of which only Our Lord and Savior could be the Author!

First, we celebrated a successful legislative session as several policy goals of our Texas Bishops were met, including the **passage of major pro-life protections**: HB 3074, protecting patients from denial of food and water; HB 3994, reforming judicial bypass for minor access to abortion; HB 3374, ensuring expectant parents with a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome receive information about support resources; HB 416, requiring abortion facilities to be trained in recognizing sex trafficking; and budget provisions to further reduce Planned Parenthood funding while increasing support of abortion alternatives. We are so grateful to all who participated in this year's Catholic Faith in Action Advocacy Day in Austin, and the many who made calls and prayed from home. It makes a difference!

Second, on June 9, the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals issued the long-awaited opinion **upholding omnibus pro-life bill HB 2**. This was the second of two lawsuits brought by abortion providers, and heard by a federal judge in Austin, challenging the law. The Fifth Circuit found the challenged provisions constitutional – requiring abortion facilities to meet the safety standards of ambulatory surgical centers and abortionists to maintain local admitting privileges with a narrow exception for one facility and abortionist in McAllen. The Fifth Circuit's ruling has, however, been stayed by the U.S. Supreme Court pending appeal to the high court. Please continue storming heaven with your prayers that HB 2 will ultimately be fully enforced!

This brings me to my third and most amazing piece of news. In the wake of the Fifth Circuit victory, we received word that after decades of killing, the **Routh Street abortion facility was ending abortions on June 13 and closing its doors forever!!** This facility has been an open wound in Dallas since the 1970s. I recall my first experience praying there in 1990 when Bishop Grahmann invited all Catholics to join him every Second Saturday to pray outside Dallas abortion facilities – there were 13 back then. And our prayers never stopped. In 1997, the CPLC began the Quarterly Masses and Rosary Processions to the various facilities, including Routh Street, and our Convert-to-Life Ministry was officially launched to provide daily organized prayer and sidewalk counseling. From 2010 to 2013, hundreds of faithful flocked to Routh Street for the Roe Memorial Rosaries and Jericho Walks, engulfing the building in prayer. And on July 11, I was honored to gather with so many of you for a final prayer service there to remember the children lost and in thanksgiving for this incredible victory through Our Lady's intercession and God's amazing grace. **11 down, 2 to go!**

Blessings in Christ, for Life,

Devoted to ending abortion and restoring respect for life