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Moving forward

A Message to our Friends of Life

What a roller coaster of emotions last month was! We were so excited to see hundreds of women flock to Dallas for the first-ever *Pro-Life Women's Conference: Reclaiming the Narrative* by women and for women, featuring national experts (including three from the CPLC!) on a wide-range of important life and family topics.

But on the Monday following, our collective hearts sank with the news that the U.S. Supreme Court had struck down the challenged provisions of Texas law HB 2.

Eight supreme court justices undid the work of thousands to ensure the safety of Texas women victimized by the abortion industry. Incredibly the court found the requirements that abortionists maintain local admitting privileges and that all abortion facilities meet the health standards of ambulatory surgical centers unconstitutional. This decision gave priority to profit over safety and is a gross injustice to all women. Although very disappointing, all is not lost.

Two provisions of HB 2 remain in effect – the ban on abortions past 20 weeks and regulation of chemical abortions. And thanks be to God, two of the three recently closed abortion facilities in Dallas – Routh and Robinson's – have been torn down and thus cannot reopen in the wake of the Supreme Court decision. (Let us pray that the former Northpark facility will likewise remain closed.)

Despite this setback, our path ahead remains clear. With your help, our client services will continue offering women experiencing unexpected pregnancies real options for their health, families and future. Likewise, we will be there for those suffering in the aftermath of abortion with Christ's healing mercy.

On the advocacy front, we face a contentious election and an important legislative session in the months ahead. In anticipation of these crucial civic opportunities, the CPLC is hosting a three-part *Render Unto Caesar* webcast (in English) and radio series (in Spanish), beginning on August 30 / 31. Each hour-presentation will feature an expert speaker on life issues plus a discussion of engagement in the public square from the voting booth to the halls of our legislature. Details and registration can be found at prolifedallas.org/webcast.

In the new year, we will be preparing for the next legislative session in Texas. We hope you will join the Texas Bishops and Catholics from across the state for Advocacy Day in March (cathdal.org/advocacyday). It is critical that we continue to raise our voices for human dignity at every stage and every age and support those leaders who remain willing to step out in courage for the most vulnerable among us. As always, we are so grateful to each of you for your continued commitment to the cause of LIFE!

CPLC joins the crowds outside the U.S. Supreme Court for HB2 oral argument



On cover: Attendee at 2016 Pro-Life Women's Conference