

AN ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING GREENVILLE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO BE A RIGHT-TO-LIFE COUNTY, ENCOURAGING A CULTURE OF LIFE, DIGNITY, AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL, AND URGING THE CITIZENS OF GREENVILLE COUNTY TO PROMOTE THE INALIENABLE RIGHT TO LIFE AND THE INHERENT DIGNITY OF ALL HUMAN BEINGS THROUGH ALL STAGES OF LIFE, FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH.

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence affirms that all men are created equal and have been endowed by the Creator with unalienable rights — chief among them the right to life — and that the protection of these rights is an affirmative duty of government; and

WHEREAS, the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution provide for the protection of human life and liberty; and

WHEREAS, Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution of the State of South Carolina declares that the “privileges and immunities of citizens of this State and of the United States under this Constitution shall not be abridged, nor shall any person be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws.”; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of the United States in *Poelker v. Doe*, 432 U.S. 519, 521 (1977) found that “the Constitution does not forbid a State or city, pursuant to democratic processes, from expressing a preference for normal childbirth”; and

WHEREAS, County Council hereby urges the South Carolina General Assembly to pass S.988, the “Equal Protection for Unborn Babies Act”, which would ban abortions in South Carolina once the United States Supreme Court has overruled, in whole or in part, *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973) to acknowledge that the State of South Carolina has the authority to regulate abortion; and

WHEREAS, the Greenville County Council desires to express its deep conviction that all human beings through all stages of life, from conception to natural death, should be afforded protection from acts of cruelty and that they should be treated humanely, with dignity, and opportunity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY COUNTY COUNCIL:

Section 1. The Greenville County Council hereby recognizes and declares the full humanity of the pre-born child and declares Greenville County, South Carolina to be a Right-to-Life County, where the dignity of all human beings through all stages of life, from conception to natural death, will be promoted.

Section 2. The Greenville County Council commits to providing greater awareness of the programs and facilities available that provide compassionate support for mothers and fathers of pre-born children, those with special needs, the abused, and the elderly. This ordinance is purposed to help the County become a place that truly welcomes and protects human life and dignity. Action taken as a result of this ordinance will aim to promote a culture of life and compassion within the community and to provide opportunities for all citizens of Greenville County, helping all to live with dignity and hope.

DONE IN REGULAR MEETING THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2022.

Willis H. Meadows, Chairman
Greenville County Council

ATTEST:

Regina McCaskill
Clerk to Council

Joseph M. Kernell
County Administrator