

Thursday, April 25, 2024

To the City Secretary of Amarillo, Texas:

Since January 10, 2020, residents throughout the City of Amarillo have expressed interest in seeing our city pass an enforceable ordinance outlawing abortion within our city limits. When the first member of our community showed interest in this effort, only eight cities had passed ordinances outlawing abortion. Since then, sixty-eight other cities and eight counties have passed ordinances outlawing abortion within their jurisdiction.

The first ordinance for Amarillo was drafted, upon request from city leadership, on December 13, 2021. Over twenty different drafts have been crafted for the city of Amarillo since then, most of which came at the request of Mayor Cole Stanley. After much discussion, and with heavy hearts regarding the problem of abortion trafficking of unborn children in our community, we the undersigned determined that the best path forward for this initiative would be to pursue the passage of an ordinance through a citizen initiative petition. On Friday, December 29, 2023, the initiating committee began the citizen initiative petition process to pass an ordinance outlawing abortion in the City of Amarillo.

The Amarillo City Charter indicates that initiative petitions must be signed by not less than five percent of registered voters within the city of Amarillo. Our intention was to collect the appropriate number of petition signatures satisfying the requirement and causing the Amarillo City Council to either adopt the ordinance outlawing abortion in the exact form proposed, or for the ordinance to be placed on the ballot for the voters of Amarillo to decide at the next available election. We believe we have far exceeded this number.

We, the Initiating Committee, are proud of this ordinance and are convinced that the provisions prohibiting abortion found therein are non-negotiable items. Upon learning that the Assistant District Attorney over Juveniles for Randall County has had a long history as a pro-abortion activist working both for Planned Parenthood and Jane’s Due Process, the Initiating Committee is even more convinced that the private enforcement mechanism found in this proposed ordinance is also a non-negotiable item. The private enforcement mechanism, found in the Texas Heartbeat Act and in fifty-eight ordinances across the State of Texas, has a proven record of protecting the lives of unborn children and their mothers. We, the Initiating Committee, pray and expect that this city council will recognize the huge amount of signatures submitted represents a mandate by the citizens and voters of Amarillo.

Having declared our intent, we the undersigned residents of the City of Amarillo, by the power given to us by Article 2, Section 23 of the Amarillo City Charter, move onto the next phase of the initiative petition process by submitting this statement, the complete petition, and the attached ordinance outlawing abortion entitled, “ORDINANCE OUTLAWING ABORTION, DECLARING AMARILLO A SANCTUARY CITY FOR THE UNBORN, MAKING VARIOUS PROVISIONS AND FINDINGS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE” with the hope that this will become law in our city. This process has already played out in several cities in our state, including: Lubbock, Abilene, San Angelo, Plainview, and Athens. If this process came to fruition successfully in these cities, there is no reason this process should not come into fruition here.

We constitute the Initiating Committee and have been responsible for circulating the petition and filing it in proper form.

Jana May
106 Crestway Terrace
Amarillo, Texas 79106
Resident of Amarillo since 2009
Initiating Committee Member #1

Cindy Price
1305 South Rosemont Street
Amarillo, Texas 79106
Resident of Amarillo since 1997
Initiating Committee Member #2

Peggy Carter Thomas
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Resident of Amarillo from 1985-1989
Returned to Amarillo in 1992
Initiating Committee Member #3

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Initiating Committee Member #5

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7103 Sinclair Street
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Steve Austin
166 West Cliffside Drive
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Resident of Amarillo since 1964
Initiating Committee Member #6

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1224 Southwest 12th Avenue
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Resident of Amarillo since 1995
Initiating Committee Member #8

Connie Morgan
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Resident of Amarillo since 1975
Initiating Committee Member #10

All notices to the committee are to be sent to Initiating Committee member Jana May at 106 Crestway Terrace, Amarillo, Texas, 79106.

I, _____, being first duly sworn, on Oath depose and say that I am one of the signers, of the above affidavit, and the statements made are true, and that each signature appearing here on this page was made in my presence on Thursday, April 25, and I solemnly swear that the same is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 25th day of April 2024.

Signature of Initiating Committee Member

Signature of Notary