

BISHOPS URGE “YES” VOTE ON AMENDMENT 1

2004 Parental Notification of Abortion Amendment to the Florida Constitution

We strongly support Amendment 1, which would allow for notification to parents before their child would have an abortion. Young women who are considering an abortion should have the benefit of the wisdom and guidance of their parents when making this life changing decision. Parents' concern about the best interests of their children and knowledge of their health history make their involvement critical.

The passage of this amendment also changes the current trend in Florida as an abortion destination for those wishing to escape parental involvement and consent laws in other states. Entering into this fourth decade of legal abortion, we are alarmed and concerned as the abortion rate in Florida is still in excess of 88,000 abortions a year.

We commend our Governor, and those courageous lawmakers, who are steadfast and consistent in defending the sanctity of innocent, unborn life. We must continue to fight for those entrusted to us by God through the miracle of life. We will not rest in our efforts until our nation and culture respects all members of the human race, the born and unborn.

We urge a “yes” vote on Amendment 1.

Archbishop John C. Favalora
Archdiocese of Miami

Bishop John J. Nevins
Diocese of Venice

Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey, CP
Diocese of Orlando

Bishop John H. Ricard, SSJ
Diocese of Pensacola/Tallahassee

Bishop Robert N. Lynch
Diocese of St. Petersburg

Bishop Victor Galeone
Diocese of St. Augustine

Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito, JCL
Diocese of Palm Beach

Coadjutor Bishop Thomas G. Wenski
Diocese of Orlando

Auxiliary Bishop Felipe J. Estevez
Archdiocese of Miami