



Catholic Pro-Life Action Network of Charlotte (C-PLAN)

info@prolifecharlotte.org

May 23, 2016

The Honorable Pat McCrory
Governor of the State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor
116 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27603

The Honorable Dan Forest
Lieutenant Governor of the State of North Carolina
310 North Blount Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

The Honorable Dan Bishop
North Carolina House of Representatives
607 Legislative Office Building,
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Governor McCrory, Lieutenant Governor Forest, and Representative Bishop:

We are writing to you on behalf of the Catholic Pro-Life Action Network of Charlotte (C-PLAN). We are a coalition of individual lay Roman Catholic pro-life leaders that promote and organize pro-life and pro-family activities for over 15 of our Charlotte area churches in and around the greater community.

We are reaching out to you for two reasons.

First, we write as individuals who wish to express our thanks to each of you for truly representing the citizens of this state by repealing the unprecedented and short-sighted Charlotte “bathroom” ordinance with the enactment of House Bill 2 (HB 2).

We unite ourselves to our North Carolina Catholic Bishops in their March 18th statement calling for the repeal of Charlotte’s bathroom ordinance, and we admire your fortitude not only in rescinding this unjust ordinance by enacting HB 2, but also for continuing to stand up for truth and the common good of North Carolina citizens in a time of such moral confusion and baseless detractions.

It is truly regrettable when a vocal and aggressive minority seeks to disrupt societal foundations where—in accord with common sense and human decency—public places in which people undress (e.g. restrooms, locker rooms) are fittingly demarcated by biological sex in order to protect the safety, privacy, and dignity of those who use such places.

The public safety provisions contained in HB 2 rightly oppose this societal disruption and acknowledge that the desires of the 0.3% of transgender persons in this state should not override the safety and moral convictions of the majority who reside in the great state of North Carolina.

As you may know, 1 in 6 women are sexually assaulted in their lifetime. One third of these attacks occur in public areas.¹ Thus, we share your view that cities should not enact an ideologically-driven social experiment in our state which, common sense tells us, will inflate such an unacceptable statistic.

This bill is important to us as Catholics, and to a just society as a whole, because it helps to protect our safety and the dignity of the human person, especially that of women and children, who are most vulnerable. The public safety provisions of HB 2 ensure, as our Bishops requested that the rights of individuals, religious institutions, and businesses are not violated.

Now we come to our second reason for writing this letter: we recognize that the public pressure being placed upon you and your colleagues by the federal government, major corporations, and international leaders is tremendous. Please know that many of us Catholics in North Carolina oppose the irrational criticisms and reckless coercion against the common good of our state and fully support your collective actions to uphold this bill.

Therefore, we encourage each of you in your heroic efforts to stand firm on the bathroom ordinance of HB 2. Your courageous action not only protects the safety and religious freedoms of those who reside in and visit this state, but also is an example to other state legislatures who will undoubtedly face similar attacks in the future.

As Roman Catholic laity in the Charlotte region, we pray for each of you, along with all of our public leaders, and appreciate your steadfast resolve to ensure that North Carolina remains a safe place for all individuals.

¹Who are the Victims? | RAINN | Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network. (2009). Retrieved May 11, 2016, from <https://rainn.org/get-information/statistics>

May God bless you and guide you in all decisions and actions taken on behalf of our state.

Faithfully yours,

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