



OFFICE of the ARCHBISHOP

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

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August 12, 2020

Dear Metro Council Member,

May God bless you! I am writing about my concern that any new laws concerning buffer zones could improperly restrict the right of free expression.

I have always counseled that our pro-life efforts should be courageous, compassionate, and civil, and that activities at abortion clinics be conducted in a prayerful, peaceful, and respectful manner that includes a respect for just laws. We also always seek to support the mother and unborn child whenever possible, and we have many ministries through Catholic Charities, parishes, and other agencies that provide tangible support to parents and their unborn children.

Over the years, hundreds of women have accepted the help of sidewalk counselors and have expressed gratitude for the chance to benefit from resources and assistance to help them keep their babies. The proposed buffer zone ordinance would harm vulnerable women who need our help, and it would restrict the first amendment rights of sidewalk counselors offering a life-saving alternative to abortion.

Thank you for your service to our community. You and your constituents are in my prayers.

Sincerely,

Most Reverend Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.
Archbishop of Louisville