

To: Senator Telenia Nelson Cruz
Majority Leader
36th Guam Legislature
Ada Plaza Center
Ste. 202 A. 173 Aspinall Avenue
Hagatna, Guam 96910

Fr: Pastor Kevin Elwell
Guam Ministers Association

Re: Support for the Guam Heartbeat Act of 2022

Date: Dated Effective April 8, 2022

Dear Senator Nelson,

I serve as the president of the Guam Ministerial Association. The GMA is a coalition of like-minded pastors who meet every month to support each other in our local ministries but also strive to work together on larger projects where we can be more effective collectively. I am writing this letter on behalf of the GMA to express our support for the Guam Heartbeat Act of 2022.

As pastors we believe in the sanctity of life and that all people have eternal value because we are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). This includes the unborn babies in mothers' wombs. The Bible records King David expounding on the depth of God's relational knowledge when he writes in Psalms 139:13-15:

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was made in secret...

We also see in the Bible a strong warning to those who harm children (Matthew 18:6-7) and a special exhortation to take care of helpless children as being a sign of genuine faith (James 1:27). As pastors we feel that the Heartbeat Act encapsulates these divine values. It recognizes the unborn as life and values it. Supporting the Act seeks to help unborn children who need an advocate. Our hope is that our Guam culture will have a better future with the passage of this Act that honors, protects and values life made in the image of God.

Thank you for having the courage to put your name on a bill that addresses a controversial and contentious issue. Your work on this is a worthy cause. We want you to know that the pastoral community and the churches we represent through the GMA are immensely grateful. We stand behind your support of the Heartbeat Act.


Respectfully,

Pastor Kevin Elwell and the ministerial association

Abundant Life Church

Pastor Albert Alquero

First Church of God

Pastor Ron Guison

Agat Community Church

Schuyler Brantley

Guam Christian Life Fellowship

Pastor Pancho Madrid

The Ark Ministries

Pastor Brian McGill

Island Hope Foursquare Church

Pastor Cesar Crisostomo

Pastor Ana Crisostomo

Bayview Church

Pastor Kevin Elwell

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship

Pastor Mark Benevente

Guam Bible Fellowship

By the Well Family

Pastor James Gurtimag

Lutheran Church of Guam

Pastor Sean Dougherty

Calvary Baptist Church

Interim Pastor Jimmy Gimmen

Every Nation Church

Pastor Bradley Dunagan

Pastor Frank Blas

Calvary Chapel Guam

Pastor Rick Camacho

Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Dave Ackerman

Castle Zion Church

Pastor Yohan Oh

Pastor Grace Hyesil Nam

Pastor Greg Barnes

Faith Presbyterian Christian Reformed Church

Pastor Jeff Nelson

Cc: All Senators of the 36th Guam Legislature