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WISCONSIN FAMILY ACTION'S POSITION ON THE PROPOSED PERSONHOOD AMENDMENT TO WISCONSIN'S CONSTITUTION

Wisconsin Family Action (WFA) supports the personhood amendment resolution, authored by Rep. André Jacque (R-Bellevue).

WFA came to this position through a thorough and rigorous analysis of the issue, including authorizing an independent legal analysis of the arguments made for and against such an amendment and its effect on Wisconsin's law presently and in the future. After careful consideration, the WFA board of directors voted unanimously to support the effort to amend Wisconsin's constitution to clearly define "people" and "person" and to extend the right to life to all Wisconsin citizens, including the preborn. Following are three of the major reasons WFA supports this measure.

- Wisconsin's constitution has a glaring error in it that must be addressed. The constitution uses the term "all people are born" as it relates to the "certain inherent rights" Wisconsin citizens have. The proposed personhood amendment would remove the word *born*, making it clear that all people are free, independent and have certain inherent rights. Importantly, this amendment would make it clear that the terms "people" and "person" apply to every human being ***at any stage of development***, which of course would include the preborn. If the Wisconsin constitution is left unchanged and *Roe v. Wade* were overturned, it is conceivable that an activist court could find a right to an abortion in our state constitution based on the language currently in Article I, Section 1 of that document.
- The proposed amendment does not challenge, nor run afoul of *Roe v. Wade* or current federal abortion case law in any way. The constitutional provision would be invoked only in the event that *Roe* is overturned. Actually, in the absence of *Roe*, the amendment would likely be interpreted as providing some of the best language possible to prohibit abortion in a post-*Roe* Wisconsin.
- The proposed amendment does not threaten any of Wisconsin's existing statutes that criminalize abortion in the event that *Roe* is overturned. Nor does the proposed amendment threaten to invalidate current abortion regulations in this state. Rather, the proposed amendment actually complements these statutes by providing strong right-to-life language in the constitution.

For a more in-depth look at these issues and others, check out [WFA's position paper on Wisconsin's proposed Personhood Amendment](#).