



# Diocese of Colorado Springs

Office of the Bishop  
228 North Cascade Avenue  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Telephone (719) 636-2345 • FAX (719) 866-6488

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

As Catholics we are morally obliged to exercise our right to vote. (CCC 2240) We are all called to faithful citizenship (see *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States* at the USCCB website), so I encourage you to register to vote and inform yourselves regarding the issues and candidates keeping in mind Catholic teaching and using prudential judgment when you cast your vote. A candidate's record and past actions are more telling than what their campaign ads say, or what others say about them.

Colorado residents will face many important issues on the 2024 ballot. One of great concern to me is Amendment 79. Also known as the "Right to Abortion" amendment, this measure is extreme and unnecessary.

We know that Catholic teaching has always affirmed the right to life for every child from the moment of conception. Therefore, there can never be a "right" to abortion which takes the life of an unborn child.

Tragically, Colorado law already allows abortion for any reason up to birth. Our state has no age limits on those seeking abortion. Should this amendment pass, our state legislature would be prevented from advancing any common-sense limitations on abortion. Current requirements for parental notification would be invalidated and impossible to reestablish. This could mean, for example, parents would not be made aware if their 15-year-old daughter was being pressured to abort by a boyfriend or school counselor.

Amendment 79 would also remove the current prohibition on public funding for abortion. It would not only allow Medicaid and government insurance to pay for abortions using taxpayer dollars, but it would also pave the way for the Colorado Legislature to broaden taxpayer funded abortions for in-state and out-of-state women including barbaric late-term abortions on babies who feel pain and are able to survive outside the womb.

As a community, we must stand together to protect the most vulnerable among us and ensure that our constitution reflects respect for life and parental rights. As faithful Catholics, I urge all of us to consider this amendments grave implications, we must vote "no" on Amendment 79.

If you would like to support the campaign against this horrific amendment, please visit [righttoknowco.org](http://righttoknowco.org).

Yours in Christ,

+ James R. Golka

Most Reverend James R. Golka  
Bishop of Colorado Springs

To join the campaign against the "Right to Abortion" amendment, please visit this website: [www.RightToKnowCO.com](http://www.RightToKnowCO.com)