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December 12, 2022

Dear North Dakota Legislator:

As we approach the new legislative session, we ask for renewed attention to how the state of North Dakota can respond with love to pregnant women, born and unborn children, and new mothers.

To that end, on today, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the North Dakota Catholic Conference puts forth a set of legislative proposals to help build a sanctuary of life in North Dakota. The proposals include:

- **Expanding the Alternatives to Abortion Program** to cover more services and individuals;
- **Enacting Sales Tax Exemptions** for diapers and infant car seats;
- **Strengthening the Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act** to protect pregnant employees;
- **Establishing a Life Resources Website** to provide a one-stop location where women, families, and providers can find the help they need;
- **Reducing the Costs of Adoption** by restoring the adoption tax credit and by covering the costs of home inspections;
- **Closing gaps in Medicaid and TANF** when it comes to pregnant women and newborns; and
- **Creating a tax credit for donations** to pregnancy centers, maternity homes, and adoption agencies.

We hope that members of both parties, and persons with different views about abortion, will support these proposals. Christopher Dodson, the Executive Director of the North Dakota Catholic Conference, has worked extensively on these proposals for months and is available to assist legislators with furthering these proposals. Please contact him for additional information or questions directly at 701-269-2644 or at cdodson@ndcatholic.org.

Now is the time to respond with love. Please give these proposals serious consideration.

Thank you for your service to North Dakota. We pray not only for the success of these proposals but for you, as well, as you work to further the public good.

†Most Reverend David D. Kagan
Bishop of Bismarck

†Most Reverend John T. Folda
Bishop of Fargo