

update letter
JANUARY 2024



Photo by Daniel Schwen, accessed on Wikimedia Commons



Dear Friends,

The beginning of the year is a good time to reflect on the past and look ahead to the future. When I started Family Council nearly 35 years ago, it was very small, but I had a dream rooted in a faith that God was calling me to something important. In April of 1989, I flew to Focus On The Family's headquarters in California to meet with Dr. James Dobson and hear about his goal of forming a nationwide network of state policy groups that would promote traditional family values. Family Council started that June with a mailing list, a desk, a phone, and a 50-megabyte computer—all in the corner of our bedroom at home. Later that summer someone donated a small office on the back side of a building. The window beside my desk had a scenic view of a back alley dumpster and a concrete mixing plant!

Not long after starting Family Council, a lady walked in one day and volunteered to be the part-time office secretary. Suddenly, we had a staff! Over the next couple of years, people donated office equipment—an old photocopier—a used computer—a brand new FAX machine. Worthen Bank gave us some old desks, file cabinets, and chairs—some of which we still use today. I remember thinking how great it would be to have enough funding to actually hire another person—or maybe even two!

Thankfully, our friends across the state caught the vision, and their gifts allowed us to grow. Over the years, I had the opportunity to take my family around Arkansas, speaking to churches on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings, and Wednesday nights, passing out voter's guides, update letters, legislative reports, and free copies of Focus On The Family's *Citizen Magazine*, and telling people about the dream I had for Family Council.

One time I spoke at a ministerial association luncheon. As soon as I was introduced, two ministers stood up and walked out in silent protest. What a confidence booster! Another time I reserved a public meeting room at a county courthouse for a press conference about our voter's guides. When the county judge saw me setting up for my presentation, he had me thrown out. I ended up holding my press conference under a shade tree on the courthouse lawn.

Looking back 35 years ago, 1989 was a different time. Bill Clinton was Governor of Arkansas and a rising star in the Democratic Party. There were very few Republicans in the legislature, but in those days issues like abortion and religious freedom weren't as sharply divided along party lines. That meant we often ended up working with people who strongly agreed with us part of the time and strongly disagreed with us at other times. Still, it worked, and we were able to do a lot of good in Arkansas.

We've come a long way, and we've grown a lot. We didn't grow just to get bigger. We grew because we were called to do things that were bigger than we were. With your support and God's grace, we've done it. We've grown, and we've done a considerable amount of good over the past 35 years. As we look to 2024, there's still a lot of good work that we want to do—and I want to invite you to be part of it with us. Now let me tell you a little more about what we have been doing and about what we have planned for the coming months.

**We've come
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Executive Director Jerry Cox

My Thoughts: There are Two Ways to Be “Bought Off”

By Jerry Cox, Executive Director

A few weeks ago I had the opportunity to visit with a person I know who is running for office for the first time. As we visited about the pressures that come with serving in office, I felt prompted to share a simple thought about something that often trips up our statesmen: There are at least two ways that a candidate or elected official can be “bought off.”

When you imagine a lawmaker or judge being “bought off,” you probably picture sleazy people carrying briefcases full of cash or making questionable campaign donations. That kind of thing is rare, but it does happen from time to time, and it’s the most obvious example of “buying” someone’s vote. The more common, legal variation of this is the special interest that donates to a candidate and gets all their friends to do the same. In their mind, the candidate is obligated to follow orders and vote as directed and most of the time the elected official complies.

The second type of being “bought off” is much more common, much more subtle, and it can happen to any of us—not just elected officials. Lawmakers divide themselves into informal groups with informal leaders. A group of current lawmakers will invite a new person running for office to “join their group.” The promise of friendship, comradery, help with passing their bills, connections with influential people, campaign donations, or maybe a leadership position at the capitol the first year are enticing—but they come with a price. You have to vote the way the group tells you to vote.

It’s a lot like junior high: If you’re one of the “cool kids,” you get a seat at the table with them, and as long as you go along with them, they’ll be your friend and they’ll support you. If you get crossways with them, all of that friendship and support goes away. They use flattery, gossip, acceptance, rejection, and other emotional tools to manipulate people. “Vote with us, or we will ruin you,” they may say. It can happen anywhere—at work, at home, or at church—and we’re all susceptible to it, but it’s very pronounced at the capitol. I have personally been threatened by lawmakers. I still recall a text from a powerful senator. He said, “We will hurt you.” His threat didn’t change my position on the issue, but he delivered on his promise. He hurt me, and he hurt Family Council. He helped persuade a few people to stop donating to us. He spread lies around the capitol for years, and he tried to embarrass me in front of his legislative committee. Even today, he goes out of his way to be rude and make cutting remarks when we pass in the hallways. But we survived, and Family Council is doing great. My point is that they even use these tactics on us—to force us to be silent or do what they want. If I or any member of the legislature let them succeed even once, we’re the same as “bought off.”

I was discussing all of this with the Family Council staff recently, and one of them joked, “Jerry, there’s an ancient Greek word for what you’re describing: ‘Politics.’” *Politics* comes from the Greek word for “people.” When we worry too much about what other people think of us, it can compromise our willingness to stand for what is right. John Quincy Adams is credited with saying, “Always vote for a principle, though you vote alone, and you may cherish the sweet reflection that your vote is never lost.” Voting alone takes courage and conviction, but being willing to do that is more than worth it.

Arkansas A.G. Rejects Amendment Enshrining Abortion in State Constitution

The week after Thanksgiving Arkansas Attorney General Tim Griffin’s office rejected a proposed ballot measure enshrining abortion in the state constitution. The A.G.’s opinion cited multiple flaws and ambiguities in the measure, making it unfit to appear on the ballot this November.

The Arkansas Constitution lets organizations circulate petitions to place constitutional amendments on the ballot. Before collecting petition signatures, the measure’s sponsors must ask the Arkansas Attorney General to review the popular name, ballot title, and text of the measure to ensure its language is not ambiguous or inconsistent.

Family Council has taken the time to review the amend-

ment’s wording and speak with multiple pro-life leaders about its effect. If approved, this amendment would permanently enshrine abortion in the Arkansas Constitution and effectively erase decades of good, pro-life laws.

For example, the amendment would prevent Arkansas from requiring abortionists to have parental consent before performing an abortion on an underage girl. Parental consent laws for abortion help protect children from trafficking and exploitation. Repealing those laws puts underage girls at risk.

The amendment’s wording also could permit abortion in Arkansas through all nine months of pregnancy—including late term abortion and partial-birth abortion. Most Ameri-

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Arkansas A.G. Rejects Amendment Enshrining Abortion in State Constitution *(continued)*

cans oppose these abortion procedures, but this amendment could give them constitutional protection in Arkansas.

Last year Family Council, Arkansas Right to Life, and other pro-life leaders began meeting to discuss how best to defeat any proposed abortion legislation in Arkansas. We also have been talking to pro-lifers in states like Ohio and Michigan to see what we can learn from the losses they suffered there.

Across the country, pro-abortion groups are using misleading tactics to pass measures that are extreme, put women and girls in jeopardy, and threaten the lives of unborn children. We appreciate Arkansas Attorney General Tim Griffin and his team recognizing that this abortion amendment is deeply flawed, and we remain committed to preserving our state's pro-life laws and ending abortion in Arkansas.

Governor Sanders Proclaims Pro-Life "Day of Tears" in Arkansas

In December Gov. Sarah Sanders issued a proclamation naming January 22, 2024, as the "Day of Tears" in Arkansas. In 2021 the Arkansas General Assembly passed H.C.R. 1007 recognizing January 22, the anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's infamous *Roe v. Wade* abortion decision, as The Day of Tears in Arkansas and encouraging Arkansans to lower their flags to half-staff every year on January 22. Even though *Roe v. Wade* has been overturned and abortion is prohibited in Arkansas except to save the life of the mother, it is good to set aside time to reflect on how abortion took the lives of women and unborn children for so many decades.

Gov. Sanders' proclamation says:

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME - GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Arkansas and its government acknowledge that we are all endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, among them the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;

*WHEREAS: On January 22, 1973, the majority of the members of the United States Supreme Court wrongly ruled in its *Roe v. Wade* decision that abortion was a right secured by the United States Constitution;*

*WHEREAS: Before the United States Supreme Court decision of *Roe v. Wade*, Arkansas had already enacted laws protecting women and unborn children from abortion;*

*WHEREAS: From January 22, 1973, to June 24, 2022, the United States Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade* prevented Arkansas from protecting women and unborn children from abortion;*

WHEREAS: In Act 310 of 2023 the 94th General Assembly estimated that during that time at least two hundred thirty-six thousand, two hundred forty-three (236,243) elective abortions occurred in this State, jeopardizing the health and safety of pregnant women and depriving these unborn children of their respective rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS: The Ninety-Third General Assembly resolved in H.C.R. 1007 of 2021 that January 22 should be recognized in perpetuity as the "Day of Tears" in Arkansas and encouraged Arkansans to lower their flags to half-staff "to mourn the innocent unborn children who have lost their lives to abortion."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim January 22, 2024, as

"THE DAY OF TEARS IN ARKANSAS"

You can download a copy of the proclamation on our website at FamilyCouncil.org. **Family Council is deeply grateful to Gov. Sanders and the general assembly for recognizing January 22 as the Day of Tears in Arkansas, and we urge all of our friends to take time this month to remember the lives lost to abortion.**



CDC Numbers Show Arkansas' Abortion Rate Plummeted for Years Prior to *Dobbs*

A November report from the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) shows Arkansas' abortion rate was cut by more than half from 2001 to 2021. The abortion rate is calculated as the number of abortions performed in a state for every 1,000 women ages 15–44. It's a way to measure how common abortion is in a state by comparing the total number of abortions to the state's female population.

In Arkansas, the abortion rate was 11 abortions per 1,000 women ages 15–44 in 2001. However, the CDC's latest report shows Arkansas' abortion rate fell to 5.4 by 2021. Since 2022 abortion has been prohibited in Arkansas except to save the life of the mother, but Arkansas' abortion rate plum-

meted throughout the late 1990s and 2000s. Public opinion polling shows most Arkansans do not support abortion on demand, and Arkansas' declining abortion numbers underscore the pro-life shift that has taken place in the state over the decades.

Now that *Roe v. Wade* has been reversed and abortion is generally prohibited in Arkansas except to save the life of the mother, pro-lifers must continue to work to make abortion irrelevant, unthinkable, and unnecessary. Family Council remains committed to promoting the sanctity and dignity of innocent human life in Arkansas.

Arkansas Risks Lagging Behind Other States on Pregnancy Center Funding

In April, Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders signed Act 622 of 2023 renewing the state's annual funding for pregnancy help organizations. Under Act 622, the Department of Finance and Administration will distribute \$1 million in state-funded grants for crisis pregnancy centers, maternity homes, adoption agencies, and social services agencies that provide material support to women with unplanned pregnancies between now and June 30, 2024. This grant funding provides women and families with alternatives to abortion. While this funding is good, Arkansas actually runs the risk of lagging behind other states when it comes to funding alternatives to abortion.

Now that *Roe v. Wade* has been reversed and abortion is generally prohibited in Arkansas except to save the life of the mother, the state needs to take steps to make abortion unthinkable and unnecessary.

Since the 2022 *Dobbs* decision reversing *Roe v. Wade*, state legislatures around the country have ramped up state funding for pregnancy help organizations. For example, Ohio recently raised its state budget for pregnancy resource centers to \$7 million per year. In Tennessee, legislators have appropriated \$20 million for pro-life organizations that provide alternatives to abortion. Florida's state budget allocates \$30 million for pregnancy help organizations. The Texas Legislature now budgets \$70 million per year for its abortion alternatives program. And Kansas—where some 405 women from Arkansas had abortions in 2022—will provide \$2 million to pregnancy centers. In terms of per capita spending, Arkansas would need to budget approximately

\$1.8 million for alternatives to abortion to be on par with Kansas and \$8 million to be competitive with Texas.

Now that *Roe v. Wade* has been reversed and abortion is generally prohibited in Arkansas except to save the life of the mother, the state needs to take steps to make abortion unthinkable and unnecessary. Public grant funding for pregnancy help organizations does that. It literally is an investment in Arkansas' future generations.



Family Council Joins Pro-Life Amicus Briefs in State, Federal Courts

In November Family Council joined two pro-life amicus briefs—one in state court in Iowa and another in federal court in Idaho. In Iowa, Family Council joined 32 other pro-life public policy organizations defending a pro-life law before the state's supreme court and arguing that unborn children are protected by the fourteenth amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Iowa's law generally prohibits abortion if the unborn baby has a detectable heartbeat, but Planned Parenthood filed a lawsuit challenging the law, and a county district court blocked the State of Iowa from enforcing it.

On November 15, Family Council joined 32 other pro-life, pro-family organizations filing an amicus brief in the case arguing that an unborn child in the mother's womb is a "person" under the Fourteenth Amendment entitled to equal protection under the law. We believe Iowa's pro-life law is constitutional, and we trust the Iowa Supreme Court to uphold it. However, even if Iowa loses in state court, this case—and the amicus briefs filed in it—could set the stage for future pro-life victories in Iowa and elsewhere around the country. That's something to look forward to.

On November 27, Family Council joined 29 other organizations in filing an amicus brief in a lawsuit over the Biden Administration's effort to turn emergency rooms into abortion facilities via the federal Emergency Medical Treatment

and Labor Act (EMTALA). EMTALA is a decades old law signed by President Ronald Reagan. It is designed to ensure people are able to receive emergency care even if they are unable to pay. After the U.S. Supreme Court released its *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, President Biden issued an executive order urging the Secretary of Health and Human Services to identify ways to use federal authority to expand abortion access. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services instructed doctors and hospitals that EMTALA requires them to perform abortions as a "stabilizing treatment" or transfer the woman to another facility for an abortion if they determine that doing so is necessary to protect the life or health of the mother—even if the abortion would be illegal under state law. That decision has prompted a legal challenge in Idaho.

The amicus we joined in Idaho argues that the federal government is unlawfully intruding into state law. The Biden Administration simply has no business trying to overrule state pro-life laws or turn emergency rooms into abortion facilities. If the Biden Administration wins in Idaho, it could try to push the same abortion agenda in other pro-life states—including Arkansas. Family Council is pleased to join with other pro-life groups in standing for life and pushing back against abortion in our country.

Family Council Opposes Biden Administration Proposal Eliminating Federal TANF Funds for Pregnancy Resource Centers

In October the Biden Administration quietly rolled out a federal rule change that would exclude pregnancy resource centers from receiving federal funds under the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Under TANF, states receive blocks of federal tax dollars that they can award to organizations and programs that:

- Assist needy families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives;
- End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage;
- Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies;
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

Many states award TANF funds to pregnancy resource centers and similar organizations, because these organizations help meet some or all of these goals. Arkansas provides public funds for pregnancy help organizations through pro-

grams other than TANF. The Biden Administration's administrative rule change received very little attention until November—when pro-lifers realized how it could jeopardize funding for pregnancy resource centers. On November 30, Family Council submitted formal comments to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families opposing the rule change and urging the Biden Administration not to exclude pregnancy resource centers from the TANF program.

As Family Council told the Biden Administration, many pregnancy resource centers provide everything from ultrasounds and pregnancy tests to maternity clothes, diapers, and formula—typically free of charge. There is no doubt these organizations provide actual, measurable assistance to women, children, and families. The rule change would make it more difficult for these families to receive assistance. As we said when we submitted our formal comments last year, it's ridiculous for the Biden Administration to exclude these good organizations from the TANF program.



Assistant Director David Cox

Policy Points: Nursing Home Industry Already Outspending Most PACs in Campaign Donations

By David Cox, Assistant Director

As of the third quarter of 2023, political action committees representing Arkansas' nursing home industry have outspent most other political action committees in Arkansas when it comes to campaign donations to candidates. Political action committees—or PACs—typically

work to elect or defeat candidates for public office. PACs often do that by donating to candidates, by running their own independent campaigns for or against candidates, or by giving money to other PACs. Arkansas law requires political action committees to file quarterly financial reports with the Secretary of State.

Three PACs representing nursing home owners, the Arkansas Health Care Association—the state's largest organization of long term care providers—filed documents in October listing donations they received from corporate nursing home owners and donations they made to candidates. The first PAC, **the Arkansas Health Care House Public Affairs Committee**, has raised \$84,000, and they have given \$49,300 to Arkansas House candidates this election cycle. **The Arkansas Health Care Public Affairs Committee PAC** has raised \$74,000, and they have given \$1,000 to candidates. Over the summer and fall, the PAC also supported fundraisers for several candidates. And **the Arkansas**

Health Care Senate Public Affairs Committee PAC has raised \$54,096 and has given \$14,000 to Arkansas Senate candidates. As of last fall, these three nursing home owner PACs had raised and spent more than most of the 358 PACs registered in Arkansas.

In the past, the nursing home industry has lobbied for laws that limit the amount of money that judges and juries can award in lawsuits when a person is injured or killed due to someone else's negligence. They also have pushed for laws restricting the types of evidence and testimony that can be used in personal injury lawsuits and making it easier for nursing home residents and others to waive their right to a jury trial. As we and others have said over the years, restricting lawsuits is serious business when you're talking about a grandmother who dies in a nursing home because the facility cut corners and neglected her care. Judges and juries need to be able to hold bad actors accountable and make them pay when their negligence injures or kills another person. A settlement won't bring anyone back from the dead, but it could prompt nursing homes to change their ways and protect someone else from the same negligence and death. That's why for more than 20 years Family Council has opposed efforts to restrict these lawsuits. We simply cannot ignore any legislation that puts a price tag on human life or leaves the door wide open for the nursing home industry to neglect our loved ones.

Studies Link Marijuana Use to Stroke, Heart Attack, Heart Failure

Regular marijuana use may raise the risk for heart attack, stroke, or heart failure — especially among people with other underlying health issues — according to two studies presented at the American Heart Association's 2023 Scientific Sessions. The first study found daily marijuana use raised a person's risk of heart failure by about one-third, compared to people who never used marijuana. The second study examined 28,535 marijuana users with existing cardiovascular risk factors—including high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes, or high cholesterol. It found:

- 20% of users had an increased chance of having a major heart or brain event while hospitalized.
- 13.9% of marijuana users with cardiovascular risk factors had a major adverse heart and brain event while hospitalized compared to non-users.
- Marijuana users had a higher rate of heart attacks.
- High blood pressure and high cholesterol were predic-

tors of major heart and brain problems among marijuana users.

Experts also pointed out that smoking marijuana increases concentrations of carbon monoxide and tar in the human body much like tobacco—and that both tobacco and marijuana have been linked to heart disease, chest pain, heart rhythm disturbances, heart attacks, and other serious problems. **All of this underscores what we have said for years: Marijuana may be many things, but "harmless" simply is not one of them.**





CO Public School Assigns Girl to Share Bed With Boy On Overnight Trip: ADF Letter

Last month our friends at Alliance Defending Freedom released a letter revealing that a public school in Colorado assigned an 11-year-old girl—whose name has been withheld to protect her privacy—to share a bed with a male student who identifies as a girl while on a school-sponsored trip. The girl's parents were assured at multiple meetings leading up to the trip that male and female students would be staying on different floors, and that their daughter would room with three other girls. After arriving on the trip, the girl was told she would share a bed with a student from another school—who she later learned was a boy who identified as transgender.

The girl was understandably uncomfortable sharing a bed with a male student, and privately called her parents on her phone. The school's chaperone eventually spoke with the girl, instructing her to lie about her reasons for wanting to move to a different hotel room.

All of this underscores the importance of Arkansas' Act 317 of 2023 protecting public school students' physical privacy. This good law by Rep. Mary Bentley (R – Perryville)

and Sen. Dan Sullivan (R – Jonesboro) addresses privacy in public school locker rooms, restrooms, and similar facilities by requiring public schools to designate these facilities for "male" or "female" use. It also generally prevents public schools from housing students with members of the opposite sex on overnight trips—regardless of their gender identity.

Every student in Arkansas has a right to physical privacy and safety at school and on school-sponsored trips. Public school students' school records are protected by law, because we value student privacy. A student's physical privacy should be just as important. Act 317 helps protect the physical privacy of public school students in school showers, locker rooms, restrooms, and similar facilities on campus, and it helps protect physical privacy and safety on overnight trips. Family Council was pleased to support passage of Act 317. We are grateful to Rep. Bentley and Sen. Sullivan for sponsoring Act 317, and to the General Assembly for passing this good law. Act 317 will help prevent situations like this one highlighted in Colorado from happening in Arkansas. That's something to celebrate.

**ARKANSAS
NAMED**

Most Pro-Life

**STATE IN AMERICA
FOURTH YEAR IN A ROW**

On December 20 Americans United for Life named Arkansas the most pro-life state in America for the fourth year in a row. The pro-life organization ranks all fifty states based on state laws protecting the unborn, the elderly, the disabled, and the terminally ill. Arkansans should be proud of their state legislators for passing the best laws in the nation when it comes to protecting innocent human life. That's something to celebrate. Long before *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, Arkansas' abortion rate had plummeted to historic lows. Public opinion polling has shown for years that Arkansans do not support abortion on demand, and more than forty pregnancy resource centers around the state help women and girls with unexpected pregnancies. Arkansas is the nation's most pro-life state, because Arkansans themselves are deeply pro-life. Arkansas Right to Life has been defending human life for over forty-five years, and Family Council has been at it for nearly thirty-five. Arkansas' General Assembly has passed close to fifty good, pro-life measures since 2011. Ministers, churches, elected officials, pregnancy resource centers, and everyday Arkansans all have worked tirelessly to make Arkansas the pro-life state that it is today. Now that abortion is prohibited except to save the life of the mother, Arkansas' pro-life movement has entered a new phase. We are shifting our focus toward helping women and families with unexpected pregnancies, and we are making sure our laws respect and protect innocent human life at every stage from conception until natural death. We look forward to continuing that pro-life mission in 2024.

Look for Your Free Copy of the Arkansas Voter's Guide Next Month

Next month Family Council will release its 2024 Arkansas Voter's Guide ahead of the Republican and Democratic Primaries. Since 1990, Family Council has produced the state's leading nonpartisan voter's guide. Our guide surveys candidates on a wide variety of issues that voters care about, and we publish the candidates' responses in print and online.

The 2024 Voter's Guide survey asked candidates where they stand on Arkansas' abortion laws; the 2023 LEARNS Act changing Arkansas education laws; marijuana; banning assault weapons; gender identity issues; the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act; letting nursing home residents

voluntarily place cameras in their rooms so their loved ones can see and hear them; and whether or not state government should be able to close private businesses during a health emergency.

If you would like to pre-order additional guides for your church or family, call our office at (501) 375-7000 or go to ArkansasVotersGuide.com.



WE NEED YOUR HELP

This June marks 35 years since I launched Family Council. When I look back at where we started and how far we've come, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to everyone who has helped us make it to this point. We simply would not be here without you.

We have big plans for 2024. We intend to grow our staff, expand our mission—especially with attorneys, lawmakers, and ministers—block any effort to legalize abortion in Arkansas, and work with our friends in the legislature to renew the \$1 million funding for Arkansas' pregnancy resource organizations. Our friends were so generous to support us last year, and 2023 was a successful year as a result. You can help us make 2024 a successful year by sending a generous, tax-deductible donation to Family Council, if you are able.

Thank you for your friendship, your financial support, your words of encouragement, and your prayers. I hope you will continue to think of us and support our work in Arkansas as you are able. Please let me know if there is ever anything my staff or I can do for you.

Sincerely,

Thank you!!

Jerry Cox, President

P.S. Next month we will send you a free copy of the 2024 Arkansas Voter's Guide. If you need additional copies for your family or church, feel free to call us at (501) 375-7000 or visit ArkansasVotersGuide.com. We have big plans for 2024. Thank you for helping us make Arkansas a better place to live, work, and raise a family.



***About Us:** Family Council is a conservative, Christian non-profit organization based in Little Rock, Arkansas. Jerry Cox founded Family Council in 1989 in association with Dr. James Dobson and Focus on the Family. Our mission is to promote, protect, and strengthen traditional family values. We educate and equip families and churches to make Arkansas a better place to live, work, and raise a family, and we lobby lawmakers and elected officials on important issues that matter to families. Our work is funded by generous supporters all over Arkansas.*
