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Life Newsbytes

Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt signed into law on Tuesday a bill that will ban the majority of abortions and make committing them a felony. The bill received more than 80% support in both legislative chambers. Senate Bill 612 only allows abortions if the mother's life is at risk. ... The law does not allow exceptions for fetal diagnosis, rape, or incest. Anyone who carries out an abortion could be charged with a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a \$100,000 fine. The bill's sponsor, Senator Jim Olsen, stated that only the person committing the abortion—the abortionist—would face penalties under the law, not the mother. ... The new law is scheduled to go into effect this summer, according to *The Washington Post*. However, it is expected to be blocked quickly by abortion advocates. (*Live Action News*, 4/12/22; *CLR LifeWire*, 4/15/22)

A Wall Street Journal poll of 1,500 voters conducted in early March has revealed that more people support a restriction on abortion after 15 weeks than oppose it. In fact, the poll found that nearly 50% of respondents are in favor of such a restriction. This information comes as the Supreme Court prepares to rule on *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which centers on Mississippi's 2018 15-week abortion restriction law. (*Live Action News*, 4/5/22; *CLR LifeWire*, 4/7/22)

Speaking up For Life

"We pray in our services for 'the race of man' not the races of man. There is only one race. All else are ethnic, national, cultural, or other differences. We've past histories to trouble us to be sure—like the Irish and the English, the Jew and the Christian, the Greek and the Ottoman Turk, and the slave and the slave owner—but there is no place from which a genuine reconciliation can emerge today, except in Christ. The goal is fellowship, brotherhood in Christ." *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James*

"[W]e demand an end to the injustice of abortion. We demand an end to the injustice of human trafficking, pornography, slavery, and the separation of children from their parents. But we do so as confessors. We confess that we are sinners, great sinners, with the culture of death flowing in our veins and pulsing through our corrupted brains. And we confess that only in Jesus is the life we need." *Rev. Christopher Esget, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Alexandria, Virginia*

"God has placed each of us here at this very moment in time for His purpose: to be lights in the darkness, to be warriors in His battles, to be the hands and feet and voices that bring the good news of salvation to the whole lost world. He asks us to strengthen our feeble arms and weak knees, to open our mouths to the words He will give us, and to run the race to the finish line." *Dr. Barbara Lane Geistfeld, Assistant Director of Volunteer Relations for Lutherans For Life*

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