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CCI CELEBRATES PARENTAL NOTICE VICTORY!

Today, the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals dissolved the federal injunction against the Illinois Parental Notice of Abortion Act. Barring further legal action, the court's decision (*Zbaraz v. Hartigan*), ensures Illinois parents will be entitled to notification before their minor daughters undergo abortions.

“Today is a great and important day,” said Bob Gilligan, Executive Director of CCI. “For the first time in decades, Illinois will enjoy an entirely reasonable, if minimal, restriction on access to abortion. Parental notice enjoys broad public support and works to ensure the protection of Illinois’ children and families.”

The Parental Notice Act had been in legal limbo for fourteen years because of the Illinois Supreme Court's refusal to issue the rules necessary to make the Act effective. Once those rules were issued, the opponents of parental notification argued against their legal implementation. The Catholic Conference of Illinois (CCI) filed an amicus brief in the case and participated in formulating the successful legal strategy.

The court’s decision represents the culmination of a long and difficult political and legal effort. Fourteen years after the passage of the Illinois Parental Notice of Abortion Act, three years after the Catholic Conference of Illinois (CCI) led a coalition to defeat House Bill 317 (written to gut the Act), and only months after CCI opposed and defeated the Illinois Freedom of Choice Act, House Bill 2354, parental notification in Illinois will become a reality.

Today's decision represents a great and important victory for the proponents of sanctity of every human life.