

From the desk of Tom Brejcha, Founder and President...

September 10, 2026

Dear Friend,

One year ago, I wrote a vigorous letter, published by the *Chicago Tribune*, urging Illinois lawmakers to reject a proposal for legalizing assisted suicide for which there was a renewed push after prior failures to get it passed. I reminded those legislators and the advocates supporting them that human dignity inheres in every person, that this dignity is essential and not contingent on good health, and that human dignity is never diminished, let alone negated or revoked, by illness or despair.

Deliberately ending innocent human life, or aiding and abetting another's death, either by euthanasia or helping somebody commit suicide, contravenes natural law and flies in the face of our fundamental, God-given right to life.

Despite our efforts, however, during the darkest hours of pre-dawn Halloween morning last October, a bare majority of Illinois's legislators finally passed this macabre new law, having falsely mislabeled it as a "food-services" bill. Hoping that we would soon forget about the new law, they directed that it would not go into effect, if signed by Governor Pritzker, till September 12, 2026—this very month!

We just filed a new federal lawsuit to stop Illinois's assisted suicide law and to protect conscientious medical providers

Last month, on August 11, we filed a major federal lawsuit on behalf of **Dr. Mary Keen Kirchoff**—a physician who has spent over forty years caring for those in need—along with three fellow physicians, **Most Reverend Thomas Paprocki**, Bishop of the Diocese of Springfield, Illinois, and the **Lutheran Care Center**, a religious nursing home that has served nearly 3,000 patients in southern Illinois since 1969.

Here is the essence of what the new Illinois law demands of them: tell patients about the "benefits" of killing themselves—even patients who never asked about suicide; refer them to some other Illinois physician(s) willing to help them commit suicide; and then **falsify the death certificate**, that is *to lie and cover up what really happened*.

And if a medical provider refuses? The law threatens fines of up to **\$10,000 per violation**, the revocation of their medical licenses, and criminal prosecution—all for the offense of refusing to help kill their own patients. Dr. Keen put it this way: *"As a doctor, I have a*

responsibility to meet my patients' existential pain with loving accompaniment, not with abandonment."

Illinois's assisted suicide regime doesn't stop at individual doctors—it conscripts entire institutions into this newly compulsory regime of assistance in self-killing, lying, and cover-up.

Under this law, faith-based hospitals are required to allow their own employees to promote assisted suicide on the hospital's own premises. Physicians, nurses, or other employees may help a patient die on the weekend when not at work at the hospital. But then they may walk back into the hospital on Monday morning, with impunity.

The hospital may not fire them, may not discipline them, and **may not stop them from publicly advocating for assisted suicide**—even if this would defy every principle (e.g., “Thou shall not kill” and “Do no harm”!) to which that hospital is dedicated, betraying its ideals and religious mission, and tainting its public reputation as a center for healing.

As Bishop Paprocki, who is tasked with overseeing that the Catholic hospitals in his diocese follow Church teaching, said: *“We must be free to serve the sick and the dying according to our faith, not according to the state's mandate.”*

And here is the part that would make George Orwell, author of the dystopian novel *1984* and its fictional dictator, Big Brother, both blush. Just as Orwell's Big Brother decreed that “War” means “Peace,” Illinois's new law (euphemistically entitled “end-of-life options,” or “EOLO”) decrees that **assisted suicide “does not constitute suicide.”**

Call it what it is? That would qualify as what this EOLO law condemns as “misinformation” about medical assistance in dying. Such **truthful** “misinformation” would also be criminally and civilly punishable!

Here, Illinois now targets physicians and hospitals with both criminal and civil penalties: it compels doctors to falsify death certificates by recording the patient's underlying illness instead of the *truth*, and it threatens to punish any doctor who records the real cause—suicide—by its true name.

Let all this sink in! No wonder they delayed this law's enforcement until this very month—betting we'd have forgotten about it by now. But we didn't forget.

We've won the first round, but the fight for every doctor and religious health care ministry in Illinois is just beginning!

Ten days after we filed suit, U.S. District Judge Franklin Valderrama entered an agreed-upon “temporary restraining order” that commands that Illinois stand down. Our clients are protected—for now.

Yet, this order only reaches the plaintiffs who joined the lawsuit. When September 12th arrives, every other conscientious physician or medical provider in Illinois will face this law's impossible demands, unless we succeed in striking down the entire law as unconstitutional.

No wonder many more doctors, nurses, and hospitals are joining us now. The future of the Hippocratic Oath and what our culture has taken for granted over so many centuries, even millennia—that the physician's duty is to heal, not to harm—is under attack.

As Dr. Keen has said: *"In medical school, I was taught to care for my patients like family. No one would have suggested that killing could be caring... Assisting someone in committing suicide is the opposite of caring; it is abandonment of the worst kind."*

And even as attacks on the unborn intensify, we cannot build a culture of life while surrendering its final chapter to the culture of death, in our state and elsewhere. We must fight to preserve the God-given dignity of every human person from conception to natural death—and we must not allow the state to hollow out that dignity by disguising abandonment as mercy.

As our lead litigators on this major case, Peter Breen and Michael McHale, put it: *"We will not rest until this mandate is struck down for good, and every doctor and health care ministry in the state is free to heal without fear."*

Big Abortion is demanding Lila Rose's Live Action stop calling abortion "killing." Our response? "No."

Thirteen women who obtained abortions under difficult medical circumstances chose—freely and publicly—to share their stories. They spoke at political conventions, testified before legislatures, appeared on national television, and lent their names to lawsuits challenging pro-life laws. They became public advocates for abortion.

Our clients, Lila Rose and her pro-life activists at Live Action, acting as any news organization would, reported on their public statements and expressed the opinion—shared by tens of millions of Americans—that abortion takes the life of a living human child.

But in response, **Amplify Legal**—the new litigation arm of an abortion lobby co-founded by late Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards, bankrolled by nearly **\$17 million from George Soros's foundations**—sent Live Action a fourteen-page ultimatum on behalf of those same thirteen women.

They said that calling these abortions "killing" was malicious, libelous and defamatory. They demanded that Live Action delete its reporting and publish "full and unequivocal recantations."

Putting it plain and simple: these women proudly told their stories to the world, and now the abortion industry is claiming it is defamation to report the truth about what they said and did.

This is not new—and we have confronted and beaten this same scare tactic, a staple in the pro-abortion playbook, many times before. Years ago, the huge nationwide medical waste company Stericycle (which trafficked and disposed of aborted baby remains for abortion providers) hired a former U.S. Attorney to sue the Ohio-based pro-life group Created Equal for going door-to-door in Stericycle’s hometown, Lake Forest, Illinois, calling abortion murder.

We took the case. We quickly won a dismissal. Stericycle declined to appeal. The judge relied on an earlier Illinois ruling—one neither the Illinois Supreme Court nor the U.S. Supreme Court would disturb—holding that calling abortion murder is constitutionally protected opinion.

So, our response to Amplify Legal was succinct, pointed, and firm: *“The answer is No.”*

Live Action will not delete its reporting. It will not retract its constitutionally protected opinion. And it will not submit its journalism to the abortion lobby for pre-clearance. This is exactly the kind of bare-knuckle fight our Thomas More Society was born to defend. *And win!*

“Even the U.S. Supreme Court has used the term ‘killing’ in the context of abortion,” our lead litigator Peter Breen added. “We are proud to defend Live Action's right to speak freely on the most important human rights issue of our time.”

Your **doubled gift**, matched by a group of anonymous supporters until September 30, ensures that Live Action and every pro-life truth-teller has a legal team ready to fight back.

Our “APR” trial heads to closing statements September 17th—with \$20 million in fines and the threat of censorship on the line!

In Oakland, California, the stakes could not be higher. On **September 17, we are set to present oral closing statements** in our defense of Abortion Pill Reversal against California’s **\$20 million** prosecution. The judge will rule within 90 days.

We know our cause is just, we presented our defense as powerfully as we could, and with your support we’re ready to fight as long as it takes.

California says our pro-life ministry clients, Heartbeat International and RealOptions pregnancy centers, defrauded women by telling them they could save their babies. The mothers who took the stand said the opposite. Some had been pressured into taking the deadly abortion pill. All of them immediately regretted taking it.

They searched desperately for a way to save their babies. By the grace of God, they found Heartbeat International’s Abortion Pill Rescue Network and were able to access the life-saving Abortion Pill Reversal protocol. One mother testified that the moment she learned reversal was possible, she felt hope for the first time in days.

Another said she would do it again without hesitation. Not one of them ever felt defrauded. **Every one of them is grateful.** They chose to testify, voluntarily, so that the next woman in crisis would have the same chance they did. **If California wins, then publicizing,**

promoting, and speaking about Abortion Pill Reversal (APR) could be suppressed. The next woman searching at 2 a.m., terrified and alone, trying to save her unborn child, will find no hotline to call, no hope to cling to, no second chance for her baby.

We cannot and will not let that happen. That is why our anonymous mission partners have pledged a **\$150,000 *Defending Second Chances* matching challenge**—doubling every gift through September 30.

This New Jersey school district is defying our Supreme Court win against *secret* gender transitioning. We just took them to court!

When we prevailed at the U.S. Supreme Court earlier this year, in *Mirabelli v. Bonta*, we made a promise: any school district that continued to hide a child's gender transition from parents would face a federal lawsuit.

The School District of the Chathams in New Jersey has a policy that **allows school counselors to secretly “transition” children to another gender without telling their parents.** It directs staff to accept a student's “asserted gender identity” regardless of parental consent and allows them to refer children to outside LGBTQ advocacy groups—all behind closed doors, all without a single word to Mom or Dad.

When parents stood before the Chathams Board of Education and cited our Supreme Court's ruling, the board president told them our victorious decision is **“not binding” in New Jersey.** Not binding? A 6-3 ruling of the *U.S. Supreme Court*?

Our Senior Counsel **Christopher Ferrara** put it plainly: “No school district has a right to secretly ‘transition’ children to another gender. Parents send their children to school trusting that the district is in partnership with them—**not working around them.** That is not a school policy; **that is a betrayal.**”

On behalf of **Moms for Liberty**, our team just **filed a federal lawsuit** arguing that the Chathams' policy violates the First Amendment's Free Exercise and Free Speech Clauses and the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause.

In announcing the lawsuit, Moms for Liberty CEO **Tina Descovich** said: “Parents are the primary educators and caregivers of their children—not school boards, not counselors, and **not ideologues pushing secret gender transitions behind closed doors.**” *Hear, hear!*

Will you rush a gift—doubled by a \$150,000 MATCH—to keep us in these courtrooms, fighting for parents, doctors, and the truth?

Right now, our team is readying to present closing arguments in California, waging a federal fight to stop Illinois from forcing doctors to promote suicide, defending Live Action against deep-pocketed lawyers trying to silence them, and holding a school board to account for defying the Supreme Court. **You make this possible.**

The abortion industry is overflowing with resources. State attorneys general wield the full prosecutorial power of their offices. They are counting on us running out of money. **We cannot let that happen.**

That's why a group of generous mission partners are **matching every gift dollar-for-dollar through September 30**. Your \$500 becomes \$1,000. Your \$100 becomes \$200. Your \$50 becomes \$100.

So please, will you help us defend life, family, and freedom with a gift of \$500, \$250, or \$100? We also need lots of gifts in the range of \$75, \$50, \$35—or whatever you can sacrifice. **Your gift will be doubled until September 30.**

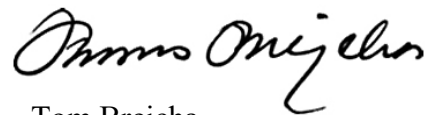
We will gratefully accept your generous contribution... no matter how small, no matter how large! If the Lord has blessed you financially, please consider sending a gift of \$5,000, \$2,500, or \$1,000—each one matched dollar-for-dollar.

I'm also praying that two heroes will step forward with a gift of \$10,000, five heroes with \$5,000, and ten heroes with \$1,000. Gifts in that range are tremendous blessings—and this month, they go twice as far.

Imagine Dr. Keen Kirchoff, who spent four decades healing the sick with loving accompaniment, now told by the state that she must promote suicide or risk career-ending penalties. Imagine a mother searching at 2 a.m. for a way to save her baby, and unable to find the help she needs...

Your **doubled gift** ensures our legal team keeps fighting—for the doctor, for the mother, for the family, and for the truth. Your prayers and gifts sustain us at Thomas More Society, and for that we are always grateful. May God bless you and your loved ones in His own best way!

Yours faithfully,



Tom Brejcha
Founder and President
Thomas More Society

P.S. We're headed back to court this month for the final showdown in our massive California trial to protect Abortion Pill Reversal. Our **\$150,000 Defending Second Chances matching challenge** means every dollar you give right now is doubled until September 30. **Please rush your most generous matched gift today!**

P.P.S. Visit www.thomasmoresociety.org/apr for more details and updates about our major trial defending the right to speak about APR.