IN THE SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

Advisory Opinion to the Attorney General Re: Limiting Government Interference with Abortion

No. SC2023-1392

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEFING

At oral argument in this case, Chief Justice Muñiz asked whether the unborn child should be considered a "natural person" within the meaning of the Natural Persons Clause in Article I, Section 2 of the Florida Constitution. That clause provides that "[a]ll natural persons, female and male alike, are equal before the law and have inalienable rights, among which are the right to enjoy and defend life and liberty, to pursue happiness, to be rewarded for industry, and to acquire, possess and protect property." The concern Chief Justice Muñiz expressed was that the proposed abortion amendment could have the effect of dramatically curtailing the scope of the "right to enjoy and defend life"—an effect not disclosed in the ballot summary.

Since the oral argument, other parties have submitted supplemental authority to the Court on Chief Justice Muñiz's question.

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Should the Court desire further assistance, the Attorney General stands ready file a supplemental brief on the important question of how best to understand the Natural Persons Clause as it applies to unborn children.

Respectfully submitted,

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March 18, 2024

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been

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