

NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE



CALIFORNIA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE STATEMENT ON THE DEFEAT OF PROPOSITION 4

The close vote count can be attributed almost entirely to the incredible grassroots effort...

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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*Following is a statement by Bishop Stephen E. Blaire,
President of the California Catholic Conference:*

We are deeply disappointed that the voters of California chose not to pass Proposition 4, the constitutional amendment titled *Waiting Period and Parental Notification before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy*, which was on the November 4, 2008 general election ballot.

Proposition 4 was a common sense initiative that affirmed parental involvement in the medical and moral decisions of their minor daughters. Polls had consistently shown that the citizens of California approve this responsible restriction, which would have placed abortion law in concert with other laws that grant parents oversight of and responsibility for their minor children.

Although Proposition 4 did not pass, the campaign provided us all a valuable opportunity to educate both our parishioners and the general public. In addition, we will continue to explore opportunities in the public arena to ensure that the rights of parents are upheld.

Finally, I would like to personally thank all of our clergy, diocesan and parish staff – especially the Respect Life directors and coordinators – and the many volunteers who spent many long hours in this effort

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