

IOWA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
STATEMENT REGARDING THE PASSAGE OF IOWA'S CLONE AND KILL BILL

It is with great sadness that the Clone and Kill Bill (HF 287, SF 162) was passed, despite best efforts of the Iowa Knights of Columbus to oppose the same. This bill repealed Iowa's cloning ban in order to enable cloning for the purpose of harvesting embryonic stem cells (the so-called "therapeutic" cloning procedure.) This new bill involves two fundamental breaches on the sanctity of life: the cloning of life and the killing of that life after this procedure takes place.

The Iowa Knights of Columbus is unified with the Catholic Church and, in particular, the Archbishop of the Dubuque Archdiocese, the Most Reverend Jerome G. Hanus, who most eloquently set forth the Catholic position. There have been no successes with embryonic stem cells, only vague promises. In contrast, adult stem cell research and treatment is highly encouraged and should be the focus of health care researchers in order to expand on the many past successes in this area. We also remain committed to the Church's view on the protection of the Right to Life for all human beings and, in particular, those humans who are most vulnerable and defenseless.

We pray for those that disregard these tiny human beings, we hope that society recognizes the inherent evils in therapeutic cloning, and we remain steadfast in our devotion to all human life.