

Personhood Amendment Supported by SC Pastors Alliance **at SC State House News Conference**

- June 2, 2015 ([Video](#) / [Audio](#) / Photos)

"The South Carolina Pastors Alliance, a network of over 500 pastors united together to influence public policy in matters of faith, family and freedom, is sponsoring and supporting an amendment to the SC State Constitution entitled "Personhood". This amendment will define when life begins and seeks to acknowledge and protect the constitutional and human rights of those pre-born South Carolinians."

SC Pastors Alliance [Press Release](#), for State House News Conference, June 2, 2015



Dr. Kevin Baird, Executive Director [SC Pastors Alliance](#) (SCPA) and incoming Director of the National Association of Pastors Alliances at the podium, standing with other supporters of SC Personhood Constitutional Amendment ([S.719](#), [H.4093](#)), including other South Carolina pastors, SC Senators, SC Representatives, and Christian pro-life leaders.

- SC State House, Second Floor Lobby (Between Chambers of SC Senate and SC House of Representatives), Columbia, South Carolina, news conference commencing prior to beginning of 12:00 noon Senate and House Sessions on Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Source: <https://twitter.com/shelliadamczyk> (WACH FOX Reporter/Multi-Media Journalist) [[enlarged copied version](#) reduced 75%]

Video: 2:18 min



SC Pastors Alliance supporting abortion amendment

by [Shelli Adamczyk](#)

Posted: 06.02.2015 at 6:19 PM

<http://www.wach.com/news/story.aspx?id=1212712#.VXBh6s9Vikp>

Full length Audio (only): 13:53 min

(Audio) SC Pastors Alliance news conference - SC State House, Columbia, SC - June 2, 2015

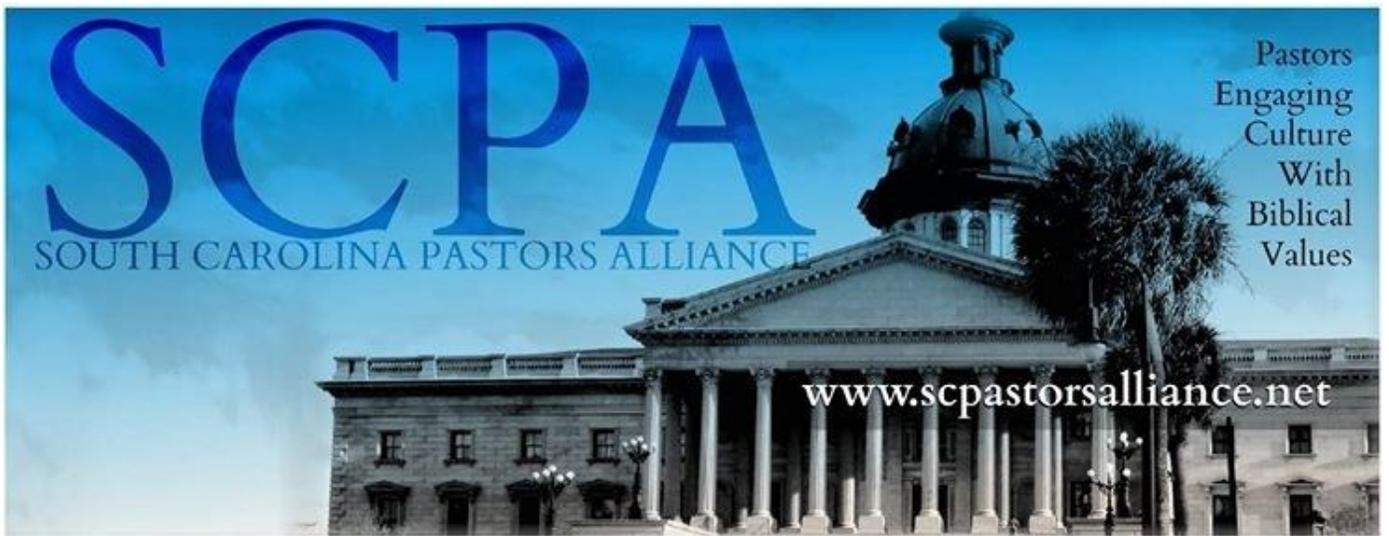
http://christianlifeandliberty.net/DS_20582.WMA

SC Pastors Alliance State House News Conference pre-event Press Release:



[South Carolina Pastors Alliance](#)

[May 30 at 5:21pm](#) · [Edited](#) ·



******Press Release**** PRESS CONFERENCE**

Tuesday, June 2, 2015, 11:45 AM

South Carolina Statehouse, Second (2nd) Floor

Hosted by Senator Lee Bright

FROM: The South Carolina Pastors Alliance

TO: All Media Outlets

RE: SCPA Presents to SC Legislature "Personhood" Constitutional Amendment

The South Carolina Pastors Alliance, a network of over 500 pastors united together to influence public policy in matters of faith, family and freedom, is sponsoring and supporting an amendment to the SC State Constitution entitled "Personhood". This amendment will define when life begins and seeks to acknowledge and protect the constitutional and human rights of those pre-born South Carolinians.

"Man cannot determine the value of human life, as life doesn't originate from him. The source of all life is the infinite, eternal God, who deems its worth and value. This is why every child must be fought for -- without exception, and why the convenient wholesale murder of the unborn must be stopped immediately. Therefore, I support the personhood amendment and believe that every South Carolinian should have the opportunity to vote on this most important issue."

- Pastor Mike Gonzalez, Midlands Director and Incoming Executive Director, SCPA

The 20 week fetal pain bill of this legislative session exposed the need to determine legally where life begins. The opinion for the 1973 decision, Roe v. Wade, left a door open in the future to define that crucial question. We have the technology and science to now address that question. It is time a solid pro-life state, such as South Carolina, moved to do what the SCOTUS intentionally left open for such a time as this.

"An honest analyst of the Supreme Court knows that there was a door left open in the majority opinion of Roe v. Wade to define in the future when life begins and revisit this national tragedy. That time is now. With convenience abortions now accounting for nearly 97% of all abortions, we must as a culture ask ourselves who exactly we are terminating. The weight of science, technology, philosophy and theology agree that the pre-born child is undeniably a human person. It is the moment for a civilized society to acknowledge that fact and protect those that are voiceless, powerless, and defenseless."

- Dr. Kevin Baird, Executive Director SCPA and incoming Director of the National Association of Pastors Alliances

<https://www.facebook.com/cwochurch>

<https://www.facebook.com/cwochurch/photos/a.233572203470356.1073741829.233416386819271/446930082134566/?type=1&theater>

Photos of speakers with quoted excerpts from June 2, 2015 SC State House news conference:

(Audio) SC Pastors Alliance news conference - SC State House, Columbia, SC - June 2, 2015
Full length [Audio](#) (only): 13:53 min

1) SC Senator Lee Bright (R- Greenville, Spartanburg):

"We are launching a[n] effort to get the Personhood Bill [Amendment] passed in South Carolina. I'm State Senator Lee Bright. I have several members of the Legislature with me. ... We've tried to get this passed here in South Carolina, but now we've got a more concerted effort. Hopefully, next year'll be the year."



[Senator Lee Bright](#) (R - Greenville, Spartanburg) primary sponsor of [S.719](#), the SC Personhood Constitutional Amendment in the SC Senate, standing with other supporters of SC Personhood Constitutional Amendment ([S.719](#), [H.4093](#)), including South Carolina pastors, SC Legislators, and Christian pro-life leaders.

- SC State House, Second Floor Lobby (Between Chambers of SC Senate and SC House of Representatives), Columbia, South Carolina, news conference commencing prior to beginning of 12:00 noon Senate and House Sessions on Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/senatorleebright/> (SC Senator Lee Bright) [[enlarged copied version](#) reduced 75%]

2) Dr. Kevin Baird, Executive Director [SC Pastors Alliance](#) (SCPA):

"This is a press conference for the passage and the support of a constitutional amendment that has been called "Personhood". I want to thank all the pastors, many of whom are behind me, that are representative of the support that we have from every corner of the State, and we are going to do our best in order to be a voice to see this particular constitutional amendment passed."

"Every generation has a justice issue, and ours is the place, and the rights, of the preborn. In fact, the reason we stand for the preborn is because something as simple and as universal as survival is at stake. Abortion has been the national sore on this nation for 42 years, and the time has come to move courageously and expeditiously to right a wrong that we have allowed to exist for far too long. And so we are no longer going to turn a blind eye to the voiceless. In 1973, the majority opinion of the infamous Roe v. Wade decision left an open door to define in the future when a preborn baby could be considered legally a person. For many of us, we do not need a legal opinion to define that moment. However today, biology, technology, ethics, and theology all agree, that the preborn baby is a person from its earliest moments, even conception. It seems almost strange to have to say that out loud in a civilized society."

"The majority of legislators here in South Carolina who state they are pro-life, have a challenge recognizing that when history is written, these chambers will be judged as to how they handled the most defenseless and powerless amongst us."

" ... It is time for this to stop. And if our legislators will not lead, then pastors of this State are going to step up and take the lead, as they have done historically in times past, and give voice to the voiceless."

"And it is because of these concerns that the South Carolina Pastors Alliance is sponsoring and presenting to the South Carolina Legislature a constitutional amendment called "Personhood". It's time to clearly define what the vast majority of South Carolinians believe, and that is, that the preborn is indeed a person. And here's the good news: It's not going to take any deals, any debates, no nuancing, and no legislative amendments. We're simply asking that the Legislature move this Amendment through and let the people of South Carolina decide what they want in their Constitution."

"If it's too difficult for our legislators to handle, then it's time that the people had a direct say."

" ... pastors from every corner of this State, as well as legislators from every corner of this State are on board, and we'll be talking one to another, as well as we will be talking to these representatives, and teaching our people that the time has now come to do what is right before God in the call of history."

Note: Christians for Personhood opposes the 20-week, so-called "Pain Capable" incremental "abortion" regulation Bill ([H .3114](#)) which does not uphold the Sanctity of Life. Being "Pro-Life" is agreeing with God about the Sanctity of Life which He created !



Dr. Kevin Baird, Executive Director [SC Pastors Alliance](#) (SCPA) and incoming Director of the National Association of Pastors Alliances at the podium, standing with other supporters of SC Personhood Constitutional Amendment ([S.719](#), [H.4093](#)), including other South Carolina pastors, SC Senators, SC Representatives, and Christian pro-life leaders.

- SC State House, Second Floor Lobby (Between Chambers of SC Senate and SC House of Representatives), Columbia, South Carolina, news conference commencing prior to beginning of 12:00 noon Senate and House Sessions on Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Photo: Steve Lefemine, [Christians for Personhood](#)

3) Richard Cash, former Christian pro-life missionary with Pastors For Life (Greenville, SC); 2010 Republican candidate for US Congress, Third Congressional District (SC); and 2014 Republican candidate for US Senate (SC):

"Last June [2014] ... in the Republican Primary, ... a Question dealing and asking the voters of South Carolina to respond, as to when a human life begins."

"Over 300,000 people voted in the [Republican] Primary election last June, and almost 80% of 'em agreed with the statement that life does begin at conception and deserves protection."

" ... if this could be an Advisory Question on the ballot, why couldn't it be, in effect, a constitutional amendment, put to the people of South Carolina in the next General Election, which will be in November 2016 ?"

"What these bills do, S.719, H.4093, is if passed by [two-thirds] of the Legislature, there will be a question on the 2016 ballot, that allows the citizens of South Carolina to amend their Constitution to extend protection to human life beginning at conception."

"This is not a novel idea. In 1998, ... a group of pastors, called Pastors For Life, and they through the Legislature, introduced the first personhood bill in South Carolina. I have the news clipping from that day if anyone wants to see it. And ever since then, there has been an ongoing effort to establish legal protection for unborn babies beginning at the moment of conception." [i.e., fertilization; [S.129](#) – Personhood Act of South Carolina (2015); [S.87](#) - Life Beginning at Conception Act (2013); [S.457](#) – Personhood Act of South Carolina (2013); [1998 - 2015](#); SC Code [Title 44, Chapter 41](#), SECTION 44-41-10. Definitions. (g) "Conception" means the fecundation of the ovum by the spermatozoa. [dictionary - "[fecundation is another word for "fertilization"](#)"]

" ... it is a renewed effort, it is one where we intend and hope to recalibrate what it means to be "pro-life" if you're[a] South Carolina [legislator]. The pastors have already sent out a pro-life personhood pledge to each State Representative and each Senator asking them to support this bill to put this constitutional amendment on the ballot, without amendment. We have already received a number of these pledges back. We're gonna put the legislators in South Carolina on record whether or not they will sign to support this bill without amendment. That's what we intend to do the next six months. We expect to have great success, and we appreciate those who have already signed and who are standing here with us today."



Richard Cash, 2014 Republican candidate for US Senate (SC), standing with other supporters of SC Personhood Constitutional Amendment ([S.719](#), [H .4093](#)), including South Carolina pastors, SC Senators, SC Representatives, and Christian pro-life leader and his wife.

- SC State House, Second Floor Lobby (Between Chambers of SC Senate and SC House of Representatives), Columbia, South Carolina, news conference commencing prior to beginning of 12:00 noon Senate and House Sessions on Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Photo: Steve Lefemine, [Christians for Personhood](#)

4) Mike Gonzalez, incoming Executive Director [SC Pastors Alliance](#) (SCPA):

"Thank you Dr. Baird, and thank you Senator Bright, and thank you Richard, and all who have been entrenched in the battle for life, not giving up, and continuing to call for the complete elimination of all abortion. Thank you as well to the pastors across the State, who are rising up in this crucial hour to lead our State and Nation in the way of righteousness."

"For 42 years, we have been in this pro-life, pro-choice battle in our nation. The incrementalists believe that we're gaining ground, or as they often say, we're moving the football closer to the goal line. ... We are still averaging over 3500 abortions a day in our nation. ... So today we say, it's time to change the playbook. It's time for us to stop trying to move the football. Instead, let's put the ball in the endzone. Let's eliminate, once and for all, all abortion in South Carolina."

"Unfortunately, the abortion issue has become a political issue, and it's not. It's a life issue. You see man cannot determine the value of human life as life doesn't originate from him. The Source of all life is the Infinite, Eternal God who deems its worth and its value. That is why every child must be fought for without exceptions, and why the convenient wholesale murder of the unborn must be stopped immediately. That is why the SC Pastors Alliance, we support the Personhood Amendment, which places on a ballot before the people of South Carolina these words:

"The privileges and ~~the~~ immunities of ~~the~~ citizens of South Carolina and the United States shall not be abridged, so that no person shall be deprived of life without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the law[s]. These rights shall extend to both born and preborn persons beginning at conception."

"We call on the legislators to put this before the people, and we thank you very much. May the Lord grant us His will in passing this Amendment."



Mike Gonzalez, incoming Executive Director [SC Pastors Alliance](#) (SCPA), standing with other supporters of SC Personhood Constitutional Amendment ([S.719](#), [H .4093](#)), including other South Carolina pastors, SC Senators, SC Representatives, and Christian pro-life leaders.

- SC State House, Second Floor Lobby (Between Chambers of SC Senate and SC House of Representatives), Columbia, South Carolina, news conference commencing prior to beginning of 12:00 noon Senate and House Sessions on Tuesday, June 2, 2015

Photo: Steve Lefemine, [Christians for Personhood](#)

Dr. Kevin Baird, Executive Director [SC Pastors Alliance](#) closing remarks (excerpts):

"And as we conclude, we understand that this will have challenges brought to it. We're under no illusion that those who would stand on the opposite side will challenge. This is a direct challenge to Roe v. Wade. However, we believe that a door was left open for just this purpose, and we believe we're just that generation to begin to decide this very issue."

"... again thank you. God bless you, and we look forward to seeing this go forward in the coming year."

[APPLAUSE]

<https://www.facebook.com/SouthCarolinaPastorsAlliance>

[Mike Gonzalez](#)

June 4 at 6:57am

More pics from yesterday's personhood press conference. Thanks again to the SCPA for standing on God's Word. Thanks to Senator Lee Bright and Richard Cash for standing with us as well

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10206950624868857&set=o.473000296105110&type=1>



SC Pastors Alliance supporting abortion amendment

by [Shelli Adamczyk](#)

Posted: 06.02.2015 at 6:19 PM

<http://www.wach.com/news/story.aspx?id=1212712#.VW9CrS9Viko>



COLUMBIA, SC (WACH) - The South Carolina Pastors Alliance and state leaders showing their support for an amendment to the South Carolina state constitution at the Statehouse Tuesday.

"In 1973 the majority opinion of the infamous Roe v. Wade left an open door to define in the future when a preborn baby could be considered legally a person," said Pastor Kevin Baird.

The "Personhood" amendment proposed would have South Carolina voters decide when life begins by putting the question on the 2016 ballot.

If such a measure were approved it could potentially lead to a ban on abortion.

"If passed by three fourths of the legislature there will be a question on the 2016 ballot that allows the citizens of South Carolina to amend their constitution to extend protection to human life beginning at conception," community leader Richard Cash said.

This isn't the first time something like this has happened in the state; in 1998 lawmakers and pastors for life representatives announced support for a similar amendment.

Right now, South Carolina law states abortion is illegal after 24 weeks of pregnancy.

A bill in the house right now would make it illegal after 20 weeks.

With only days left in the legislative session it's very likely the measure won't pass.

Regardless, lawmakers say the bill has nothing to do with the amendment being proposed.

"I mean they both deal with abortion or conception and personhood but under our rules you have to debate different ideas in different bills," said Democratic Senator Brad Hutto.

Some state leaders say they feel confident in the push for the amendment.

"I think with the push and the petitions and folks signing the commitments I think we'll see a much greater push now that we're more organized you'll see some movement come January," Republican Senator, Lee Bright said.

continued...

Corrections from Christians for Personhood regarding WACHFOX 57 article above:

For the sake of accuracy, it should be pointed out that there are two pieces of inaccurate information in the WACHFOX 57 article above. In the first example below, the inaccuracy occurred because one of the speakers at the podium gave incorrect information:

1) The requirement in the SC Constitution is that two-thirds (not three-quarters) of each chamber of the SC Legislature pass to [S.719](#) or [H .4093](#) to get the Personhood Constitutional Amendment on the ballot in the General Election ballot in November 2016:

Excerpt from SC State Constitution:

"If it is agreed to by two-thirds of the members elected to each House, the amendment or amendments must be entered on the Journals respectively, with the yeas and nays taken on it and must be submitted to the qualified electors of the State at the next general election for Representatives."

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/scconstitution/a16.php>

and,

2) The effort in 1998 involved personhood bills introduced to pass a statute, not a constitutional amendment. The recently introduced Personhood Constitutional Amendments ([S.719](#), [H .4093](#)), introduced at the end of April 2015 by Senator Lee Bright and Representative Bill Chumley respectively, are the first time that personhood constitutional amendments are known to have been filed in South Carolina.
