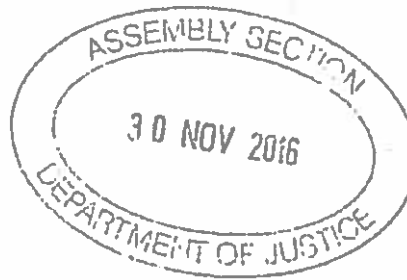




Ms Claire Sugden MLA
Justice Minister
Department of Justice
Block B
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SG



29th November 2016

Dear Ms Sugden MLA,

Yesterday, on behalf of the pro-life majority in Northern Ireland, a 300,000-strong petition was presented to the Northern Ireland Assembly calling for the protection of unborn children and their mothers from abortion. Forty-seven boxes full of individuals' names and Northern Ireland postal addresses were then delivered to Massey House that afternoon.

Those boxes contain the following petitions:

- ❖ **250,000 petitions collected from various campaigns, including:** Abortion: Not in My Name Campaign; The Basic Right Campaign; Protect the Human Campaign; petitions opposing numerous drafts of the Department of Health's 'abortion guidelines'; and petitions opposing the extension of the 1967 Abortion Act to Northern Ireland.
- ❖ **35,000 petitions presented as part of the Project Justice campaign (September 2014).**

These were in support of a proposed amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill to prohibit commercial provision of abortion in Northern Ireland.

- ❖ **30,000 'Stop Marie Stopes Campaign' petition postcards.**

Extra petitions:

- ❖ **20,000 petitions from Northern Ireland presented to the European Parliament in Brussels as part of the One of Us European Citizens' Initiative calling on the European Commission to end EU funding of research which involved the destruction of human embryos (November 2013).**
- ❖ **23,622 petitions presented as part of the Project Love campaign in opposition to the then Justice Minister David Ford MLA's public consultation on changing the law to allow abortion in cases of "lethal foetal abnormality and sexual crime" (handed into Massey House in January 2015).**
- ❖ **5,000 "Personhood begins at Conception" petitions so far (this is Precious Life's latest campaign).**

These extra petitions were not included in yesterday's presentation. However, all of the petitions mentioned in this letter are real proof of the united and unyielding conviction of the pro-life majority in Northern Ireland that every human being, born or unborn, has an unconditional right to life and should remain protected by our laws.

I would like to request permission for Precious Life to collect the forty-seven boxes of petitions from Massey House on Monday 5th December. Would this be possible?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

S. 40(2)

Director
Precious Life