



Knights of Columbus® Colorado State Council

Worthy State Deputy, State Officers, Past State Deputies, District Deputies, Grand Knights and Delegates:

This package contains the resolutions to be voted upon at the 2025 Colorado State Convention. I request that each Grand Knight ensure that the copy is given to the delegates who will represent your council at the state convention. Please discuss these resolutions with your members at your council meetings so that they may provide feedback to your delegates who will be able to make an informed decision and vote according to the desires of your Council.

The delegates for each Council should bring a copy of the resolutions to the State Convention and to any resolutions committee or convention meeting they may attend. No additional copies will be provided at the convention or resolutions committee meeting. This year, a Resolutions Committee meeting will be held virtually. The State Advocate will inform the Grand Knights selected to be on the Resolutions Committee of the date and time in advance. This is to ensure that the appropriate amount of time can be spent on the review of all resolutions and informed recommendations can be made by the committee as to each resolution. Any Brother Knight is welcome to attend the meeting, keeping in mind, the committee members are the ones who are charged with making the final recommendations. As with last year, a protocol will be established prior to the start of the meeting to ensure that proper decorum for the meeting is maintained.

As a reminder, I am reiterating several points that were included in the initial letter and included with convention forms and information with regard to the submission of resolutions for consideration at the convention and guidelines as they pertain to hospitality rooms and campaigning.

1. To comply with the by-laws, the date resolutions must have been submitted and in the hands of the State Advocate for consideration at the annual convention was **February 24, 2025.**
2. Any signs for campaigning are not to exceed **2 FOOT SQUARE**, are limited to having THREE being posted in the hospitality area. Remember they cannot contain the word **"VOTE"**.
3. A campaign sign is any sign that can be interpreted to solicit support for a candidate, council, or issue. Additionally, due to legal concerns, the use of any pins or tags containing the Knights of Columbus symbol is not permitted and is addressed by Supreme By-laws, Section 162, part 23.
4. The Consent Calendar process will be used for resolutions this year, see reverse side of this letter.

Please bring any questions or concerns on these issues to my attention.

Vivat Jesus,

Jason Pasionek

Jason Pasionek
Colorado State Advocate

THE CONSENT CALENDAR

PURPOSE: The Consent Calendar is a parliamentary procedure used to deal with non-controversial resolutions, without debate and without voting.

USE: All resolutions are initially placed on the Consent Calendar. Each resolution is called, and all non-controversial resolutions remain on the calendar to be automatically accepted or rejected in accord with the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee. All other resolutions are removed from the Consent Calendar for review and debate prior to being voted on.

PROCEDURE: Initially the Chairman of the Resolutions Committee will call each resolution by number and title only, also reading the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee.

If there is no objection from the convention floor the Resolution will remain on the Consent Calendar and the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee will be the action of the State Council on said resolution.

If there is an objection to the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee or if a delegate wishes to discuss the resolution, he should identify himself by name, council name and number and delegate status. He should then state, "I wish to have this resolution removed from the Consent Calendar," or simply state, "Objection." The resolution will then be removed from the Consent Calendar without discussion.

The resolutions remaining on the Consent Calendar at the end of the review will be accepted or rejected according to the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee.

Those resolutions removed from the Consent Calendar will be opened for discussion, debate and other parliamentary procedures at a later time during the business session of the convention. Each side, 'For and Against,' the resolution, will be allowed three speakers.

At the call of the Resolution Chairman the delegates will then vote on the resolution all pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order.

RESOLUTIONS – 2025 / 2026

RESOLUTION #1: DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

WHEREAS, it has been 125 years since the first charter was granted to a council of the Knights of Columbus in Colorado, namely Council 539 in Denver on November 18, 1900; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Colorado State Council, at its 123rd Convention, reaffirm and clearly declare the principles and objectives upon which our Order was founded; and

WHEREAS, our Order has prospered, and our membership has grown in numbers in the State of Colorado being ever mindful of the three factors which are requisite to the support of the Clergy and the Laity.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus, in convention assembled, reaffirm its commitment to the following declaration of principles:

1. To provide a system of fraternal insurance to care for members of the Order and the widows and children of its members.
2. To provide fellowship amongst the members.
3. To perform charitable, educational, and patriotic works for the benefit of our fellowman, our communities and our nation.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #2: PLEDGE OF SUPPORT TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus State Council pledge to the Supreme Knight, Patrick Kelly, the Board of Directors and the Supreme Council, our fraternal support with the fervent prayer that Almighty God will continue to grant them good health, wisdom and inspiration for their continued leadership of our Order and that under their able leadership, the achievements of the Knights of Columbus may continue to grow in our state.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #3: SALUTATIONS TO THE SUPREME CHAPLAIN

BE IT RESOLVED, that we express our deepest and most sincere appreciation to the Most Reverend William E. Lori for his spiritual direction and leadership during the past fraternal year in the position of Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, Archbishop of Baltimore and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby pledge him our continued loyalty, support and prayers.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #4: APPRECIATION OF THE CLERGY

WHEREAS, our Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Chaplains are vital and contributing members of the Order.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all members of the Colorado State Council show their appreciation by cooperating with, and providing meaningful support to, our Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Chaplains; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Convention Delegation rise and show their appreciation to our Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Chaplains.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #5: CELEBRATING THE BEATIFICATION OF BLESSED MICHAEL McGIVNEY

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2020, Father Michael J. McGivney, diocesan priest of Hartford and Founder of the Knights of Columbus, was raised to the honors of the altar and accorded the title “Blessed” by decree of Pope Francis at a Mass celebrated in the Cathedral of Saint Joseph in Hartford, Conn.; and

WHEREAS, this auspicious event marked a very significant step in our Founder’s Cause for Canonization, which was opened in the Archdiocese of Hartford in 1997, with the Knights of Columbus serving as Actor; and **WHEREAS**, Father McGivney is only the third U.S.-born male to be beatified, and needs a second miracle attributed to his intercession to become eligible for canonization.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Colorado State Council, join in offering fervent prayers of thanksgiving for the beatification of the Order’s Founder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of the Colorado State Council, knowing that a second miracle is needed for canonization, call upon all Knights and their families to invoke the proven intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney for their own needs and intentions, and to promptly report all favors received to the Father McGivney Guild, in the hope that our Founder’s Cause will continue to advance so that he might soon number among the Saints; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Colorado State Council fully supports the mission of the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center, previously known as the Knights of Columbus Museum, as it provides greater focus on the spirituality and charitable vision of our Founder.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #6: SINCERE GRATITUDE TO OUR WIVES AND FAMILIES

WHEREAS, the good works done by all members of the Knights of Columbus would not be possible without the support and encouragement of their families; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the love and support of our wives, children, and other family members who have made it so we can spread Charity and evangelize in the name of the Knights of Columbus.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we express our profound sincere appreciation to our wives and families.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #7: THANKING THE LADIES AUXILIARIES

WHEREAS, Ladies Auxiliaries have been formed alongside many of the Councils throughout the State and have proven their immense value and service to the local Council; and

WHEREAS, the State Council recognizes that ladies' auxiliaries help local councils fulfill their charitable and fraternal purposes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the individual councils thank their ladies’ auxiliaries for their contributions and service, during the past year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State Secretary of the Colorado State Council of the Knights of Columbus forwards a copy of this resolution to the State President of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #8: THANKING THE FOURTH DEGREE HONOR GUARD

WHEREAS, through the dedicated leadership and support of the District Master, District Marshals in guiding the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus by participating in various patriotic activities and providing numerous Honor Guards for events throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Honor Guards performed at Funeral and Memorial Masses provide the unconditional respect and recognition of a Brother Knight or family member; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Degree is the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus and preeminently represents the Order publicly in marches and other events; and

WHEREAS, the Fourth Degree is the highest Degree within the Knights of Columbus.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that all Fourth Degree members of this convention rise and be recognized with a resounding salutation of thanks from this Convention delegation.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #9: IN MEMORY OF THE DECEASED

BE IT RESOLVED, that we members of the Colorado State Council, recalling to memory our absent Brothers and Family members who have passed on to their eternal reward and with grateful appreciation of their contributions to our growth and progress, extend our sincere sympathy to their bereaved families by kneeling and reciting a Hail Mary and a Glory Be.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #10: SUPPORT FOR THE ARMED FORCES

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus support for the armed forces dates back to the early 20th century, most notably with the establishment of the Knights of Columbus morale centers supporting the welfare of Allied troops during the First World War; and

WHEREAS, our support for the armed forces continues to the present day; and

WHEREAS, many of our Brother Knights, along with thousands of other servicemen and women, are presently deployed in hostile and unstable regions around the world in efforts to combat terrorism, maintain order and promote peace; and

WHEREAS, many of these men and women have heroically given their lives or sustained serious or debilitating injury while deployed in the service of their country; and

WHEREAS, many thousand veterans and active/reserve Armed Forces members live in the State of Colorado, a presence in nearly every Knights of Columbus Council in the State; and

WHEREAS, the Knights and families of the Colorado jurisdiction have a great appreciation of the sacrifices of the men and women of the Armed Forces, veterans and their families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus reaffirms our unequivocal gratitude, support, and encouragement for the men and women of the armed forces who defend our liberties and freedoms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we remain steadfast in our commitment to recognize the contributions of every service member on Active Duty, in the Guard, in the Reserves, and all veterans and retired service members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the delegates assembled at this year's Colorado State Council Convention, rise and show its appreciation for the Members of the Armed Forces, our veterans and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we now pause in our deliberations to pay tribute to those men and women who have suffered serious combat injuries and to pray for the souls of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives in the defense of the nation.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #11: SUPPORT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

WHEREAS, first responders – those engaged in law enforcement, firefighting, and emergency medical services – provide invaluable services by taking responsibility for the health and safety of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the people engaged in these services, who are, in some cases, volunteers and are drawn from the communities they serve and are committed to aiding their neighbors in the model of the Good Samaritan; and

WHEREAS, for nearly 80 years, the Knights of Columbus has sponsored the Matthews and Swift Educational Trust Scholarship which was founded as a living memorial to veterans of the Second World War and supports the educational needs of the children of Knights of Columbus members who lost their lives in the line of duty while serving in the military, in law enforcement, or as a firefighter; and

WHEREAS, in a speech to Italian police, Pope Francis remarked, “Your service, often not adequately admired, places you at the heart of society and, for its high value, I do not hesitate to define it as a mission, to undertake with honor and a deep sense of duty, to the service of man and of the common good;” and

WHEREAS, the Holy Father has regularly asked for prayers for first responders during his opportunities to meet with them or when expressing his sorrow at the tragedies to which these brave men and women respond.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus expresses its deep appreciation and continued solidarity with all first responders and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we renew our support for members of law enforcement agencies who professionally perform their duties with a sense of justice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend the men and women who respond to fires and similar emergencies in our communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express profound gratitude to emergency medical service professionals who answer the call daily to save the lives of their fellow men; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit our prayers for the health and safety of all first responders to the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel while continuing to support special Masses, liturgical celebrations, and other appropriate services honoring these brave members of our communities.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #12: BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH WHILE STRENGTHENING OUR PARISHES

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus is positioned to play a key role in the new alliance between the Church and the family called for by Pope Francis; and

WHEREAS, this Order-wide initiative is meant to strengthen our parishes and foster greater unity and

WHEREAS, the order has already been moving toward answering this call through the development of thousands of new parish-based councils; various new programs to strengthen family life all leading to a deeper understanding of the family as a domestic Church; and an increasing commitment to serve the Church’s mission of a new evangelization through the parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we will focus more on programs that support Catholic families in their mission as a domestic Church.

Committee Recommends: Adopt

RESOLUTION #13: BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has a deep and historic commitment to oppose any government action or policy that promotes abortion, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, assisted suicide, or other offenses against life; and

WHEREAS, the Order supports programs that provide women facing crisis pregnancies with alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects that provide spiritual support to those women suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and

WHEREAS, our Ultrasound Program has provided a window into the womb by placing over 1,745 ultrasound machines in 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Republic of Korea, and a growing number of Canadian provinces; and

WHEREAS, in July 2022 the Supreme Council launched the Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) Program to support the hundreds of pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes—collectively serving nearly two million expectant mothers, parents, and babies in the United States—by providing \$100 for every \$500 that a council gives in support of such facilities; and

WHEREAS, we reaffirm our commitment to building a “culture of life” by promoting policies that favor the family, and by recognizing that it is within strong and healthy families that moral values are taught and the spiritual heritage of the nation is transmitted; and,

WHEREAS, in his apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis reminded us that, “Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us...this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development;” and

WHEREAS, in his encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, the Holy Father reiterated that “Since everything is interrelated, concern for the protection of nature is also incompatible with the justification of abortion;” and

WHEREAS, in remarks to the leadership of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Pope Francis reiterated that “protection of the unborn is a preeminent priority” and it is not first a religious issue, but rather an issue of human rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we will continue to speak out to our elected representatives about the need to enact legislation protecting human life in all its stages; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we believe women deserve better than abortion and will continue to support alternatives to abortion, including adoption, and that we support projects which provide spiritual support to those women and men suffering from the traumatic emotional and psychological aftereffects of abortion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through our Ultrasound Initiative and the ASAP Program, we will continue to support pregnancy care centers and maternity homes so that they can provide the necessary resources and support that help mothers to choose life and both rear and care for their children; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus will continue to uphold the Catholic Church’s authoritative teaching on the sanctity of life from conception to natural death, as explained in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, *Laudato Si'*, and other documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our long-standing policies of not inviting to any Knights of Columbus event, persons, especially public officials or candidates for public office, who do not support the legal protection of unborn children, or who advocate the legalization of assisted suicide or euthanasia, and that we prohibit such persons from renting or otherwise using facilities over which our members have control, or speaking at Knights of Columbus events, or bestowing on them honors or privileges of our Order of any kind,

or inviting them to serve as honorary chairpersons of events, celebrations, or committees, or hold any office in the Knights of Columbus; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we once again commit ourselves to praying the Rosary frequently, to fasting and to doing penance in reparation for the evils perpetrated against the gift of life and that we seek the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who herself said “yes” to life, to intercede on our behalf for the establishment of a “culture of life.”

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #14: SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus have been longtime supporters of Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council donates \$250,000 annually and has encouraged councils to actively support Special Olympics at all levels through fundraising and volunteerism; and

Whereas, the Special Olympics provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community; and

WHEREAS, the Special Olympics promote understanding, acceptance, and inclusion between people with and without intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Special Olympics movement fosters worldwide collaboration and promotes the ideals of respect, equality, and inclusion;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus hereby supports and recognizes the outstanding contributions of the Special Olympics and encourages continued involvement and support from the community to enhance the lives of individuals with intellectual disabilities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus commits to promoting the values of acceptance, inclusion, and respect for all individuals, regardless of ability, and will work towards fostering a community where everyone has the opportunity to participate in sports and recreational activities;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all Councils are strongly encouraged to actively support Special Olympics at the local, state and national levels financially or through volunteerism or both.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #15: IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

WHEREAS, Christians are the group most targeted for persecution around the world according to the Pew Research Center and have been the target of a genocide by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS); and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has urged government leaders, nongovernmental organizations, and people of goodwill to respond to the persecution of Christians; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has provided critical advocacy, research, and technical assistance to change U.S. policy, thereby helping to end what was tantamount to de facto discrimination against the most vulnerable victims of ISIS and Russia; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus has signed a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. Agency for International Development to collaborate on relief efforts and to share information to help increase the effectiveness of the government’s response to this crisis; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has urged the international community to respond to this immense humanitarian tragedy; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has spoken of the significant contributions Christians have made to the Middle East and the importance of their continued presence in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus established the Christian Refugee Relief Fund to aid persecuted Christians in Iraq, Syria and the surrounding region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with Christians in the Middle East and Ukraine who are suffering from violent persecution and commits to continue providing support while calling on all Christians and people of goodwill to do the same; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend those nations providing support to religious minorities seeking to rebuild their lives after persecution by ISIS in Iraq and Syria, and call on all governments and legislative bodies around the world to recognize this genocide against Christians and other religious minorities and to assist these persecuted communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend the Government of the United States for its changes in policy designed to assist these vulnerable communities and for its promise of assistance to them, and call on it to direct the designated funding to these communities with all possible speed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Colorado Knights of Columbus pledges to continue to aid those who have been victims of crimes against humanity, especially those Christians who have been violently persecuted because of their faith.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #16: IN DEFENSE OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

WHEREAS, the Second Vatican Council declared in *Dignitatis Humanae* that the right to religious freedom is based upon the inherent dignity of the human person, which requires that all people are to be free from coercion in matters of belief and conscience, and that no one should be forced to act in a manner contrary to his or her own beliefs or conscience; and

WHEREAS, the right to religious freedom is guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

WHEREAS, religious freedom is not a benefit that a government confers out of a sense of mere tolerance, which can be removed, but rather it is an inalienable right, rooted in the transcendent dignity of every human being; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has called religious freedom “a fundamental right of man,” that is “not simply freedom of thought or private worship” but “the freedom to live according to ethical principles, both privately and publicly;” and

WHEREAS, since its founding, the Knights of Columbus has worked to defend religious freedom for all people and has done so out of a commitment to our faith and our unshakeable belief that religious freedom is a basic human right; and

WHEREAS, the Order’s work on behalf of religious freedom included efforts in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, which affirmed the right of children to a Catholic education in opposition to the efforts of the Ku Klux Klan; and

WHEREAS, our work for religious freedom also included protesting the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s; efforts to combat the anti-religious worldview of Communism; and the inclusion of the phrase “under God” in the U.S. Pledge of Allegiance to distinguish the United States from anti-religious governments; and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has urged the Knights of Columbus to draw the attention of Catholic Americans “to contribute to the reasoned defense” of religious freedom and reminded us that “to the extent that this right is menaced...there is a need for a mobilization of consciences on the part of all those citizens who, regardless of party or creed, are concerned for the overall welfare of society.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we will remain steadfast in our support for the free exercise of religion as it is described in *Dignitatis Humanae* and enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other documents recognizing religious freedom; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we stand firm in our conviction that the full guarantee of religious liberty cannot be limited to “freedom of worship” as some have claimed, but must include full “freedom of religion,” which necessarily encompasses the public dimension of religion, the freedom from persecution or discrimination on the basis of conscience and belief, and the fact that believers are called to play an active role in building the social order; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and U.S. Department of Education to maintain robust religious and moral exemptions as part of its regulatory rulemakings and enforcement of federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge all government officials to enact legislation that will protect the right of religious institutions and individuals to be free from government coercion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will always speak out against any effort to impose religious tests on candidates or nominees for government positions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will remain steadfast in our opposition to future governmental actions or policies that force institutions and individuals to violate their deeply held religious beliefs.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #17: IN HONOR OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, in 1492 Christopher Columbus obtained permission and financial support from the King and Queen of Spain to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean in search of new trade routes; and

WHEREAS, on October 12 of that year, Columbus’ expedition landed in what is today the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, immediately erecting a cross and naming the island San Salvador, in honor of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World; and

WHEREAS, Columbus established a policy that his men were to treat the native people in the new world with respect, pursuant to which he sentenced to death men who disobeyed this order, which resulted in his own arrest and return to Spain in chains; and

WHEREAS, the 16th century historian Bartolomé de las Casas, who exposed terrible abuses of native peoples, defended Columbus’ motivations saying, “...I knew him well and I know his intentions are good;” and

WHEREAS, on the 400th anniversary of Columbus’ first voyage to the Americas, Pope Leo XIII reflected on Columbus’ strong Catholic faith writing, “it is fitting that we should confess and celebrate in an especial manner the will and designs of the Eternal Wisdom, under whose guidance the discoverer of the New World placed himself with a devotion so touching,” and ordered the celebration of Solemn Mass of the Most Holy Trinity in honor of the occasion; and

WHEREAS, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison similarly commemorated the anniversary by declaring a national Columbus holiday that year to provide, “expressions of gratitude to Divine Providence for the devout faith of the discoverer, and for the divine care and guidance which has directed our history and so abundantly blessed our people;” and

WHEREAS, at the height of the nativist and anti-Catholic sentiment of the late 19th century, Columbus was chosen as the Order’s namesake because he was one of the few Catholics considered a hero of American history, and because the founding members of the Order believed the explorer symbolized that faithful Catholics can also be patriotic American citizens; and

WHEREAS, in 1906 the Knights of Columbus advocated for the construction of a monument in Washington, DC in honor of Columbus and, when it was completed in 1912, President William Howard Taft presided at the

dedication ceremony which was attended by several foreign ambassadors, thousands of Knights of Columbus, and thousands more interested spectators leading to the observation that “every possible vantage point was filled;” and

WHEREAS, several states began establishing holidays in honor of Columbus and, following the strong urging of the Knights of Columbus and several civic organizations, the United States declared Columbus Day a federal holiday in 1937; and

WHEREAS, the strong Catholic identity associated with Columbus Day led the Ku Klux Klan to denounce the celebration of the holiday as a “papal fraud” and even burn a cross at a Knights of Columbus celebration of Columbus Day in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, to further accomplish its anti-Catholic goals in the United States, the Klan, and other nativist forces, initiated a campaign to disparage Columbus, claiming that he was not a hero, but rather just another foreign conqueror who was guilty of genocide, slavery, and oppression; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, these claims have been repeated, with misinformation about Columbus, leading to the elimination of favorable references to Columbus and the removal of monuments commemorating him, many of which were first established by Catholic immigrants seeking to establish their place in American society; and

WHEREAS, the Knights of Columbus includes many members of Native American and First Nation tribes among its ranks and works with these brother Knights and their families to address the challenges faced by indigenous communities, as well as to develop specific programs promoting the unique traditions of their Catholic faith; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of Columbus, who sought to partner with the peaceful indigenous people he encountered, the Knights of Columbus is sharing the culture of Native American and First Nation communities through its documentary, *Enduring Faith: The Story of Native American Catholicism*, promoting devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe, and establishing a shrine dedicated to St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the first indigenous American saint.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus remains steadfast in its support of Christopher Columbus as our namesake, state and federal holidays established in his honor, and, public monuments and commemorations dedicated to his life and historical contributions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we will, without diminishing the unique contributions of native peoples to the remarkable cultural tapestry of the Americas, encourage our public officials to preserve the intended spirit of the public holiday tradition with its cultural and patriotic implications, and not allow it to be undermined or diminished by neglect, dilution, or replacement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on state and local leaders to establish separate monuments, or other commemorations, that properly honor the contributions and centuries-long history of the native people of North America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commit our prayers for greater civility, peace, and understanding between all peoples to the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Patroness of the Americas, and namesake of Columbus’s lead ship on that historic 15th century journey.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: Adopt

RESOLUTION #18: COMBATTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

WHEREAS, the United Nations defines human trafficking as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of people through force, fraud, or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit;” and

WHEREAS, the United Nations reports that tens of thousands of human trafficking victims are identified in countries throughout the world each year with thousands more still trapped in this modern-day slavery; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of victims are trafficked for sexually exploitative purposes—including nearly two-thirds of all minors who are trafficked; and

WHEREAS, children are nearly twice as likely to face extreme violence from their captors, with young girls most likely to be subjected to violence; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations notes that while trafficking of persons continues to increase, recent trends suggest that identification and prosecution of such crimes has decreased in recent years, with more than four in ten of all identified victims having escaped their captors themselves; and

WHEREAS, the teachings of the Catholic Church are clear, with the Catechism declaring as a sin any acts “...leading to the enslavement of human beings, to their being bought, sold, or exchanged like merchandise, in disregard of their personal dignity;” and

WHEREAS, the Second Vatican Council also admonishes that slavery, prostitution, and the selling of women and children are “infamies” that “poison human society,” and are of “supreme dishonor to the Creator;” and

WHEREAS, Pope Francis has decried the violence of human trafficking, calling it, “an open wound in the body of Christ,” and in 2015 instituted the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking to be commemorated every February 8, the liturgical memorial of St. Josephine Bakhita, who herself was a victim of trafficking and slavery; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Council has partnered with brother Knights in Louisiana to support Metanoia Manor, a facility in the Diocese of Baton Rouge managed by the Hospitaler Sisters of Mercy, which ministers to young girls who have been the victims of trafficking while also providing training to other religious orders on how to effectively care for trafficking victims; and

WHEREAS, through collaboration with the Arise Foundation, and the generous support and work of brother Knights, the Order has worked to create a culture opposed to modern human slavery and human trafficking, to educate more people on the dangers and signs of it, and to create a culture of support for the protection of women and children, especially through programs in the Philippines, Poland, and Ukraine.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Knights of Columbus stands in solidarity with Pope Francis and the entire Church in denouncing the abhorrent practice of human trafficking; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call on all nations of the world to enact and enforce strong laws against human trafficking and other forms of involuntary servitude and to bring the perpetrators of these diabolical practices to justice; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that we pray, through the intercession of St. Josephine Bakhita, for an end to all human trafficking, slavery, forced labor, and other forms of involuntary servitude that disregard the dignity of the human person and are “an open wound in the body of Christ.”

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: **Adopt**

RESOLUTION #19: MILEAGE AND PER DIEM

WHEREAS, the Colorado State Council is tasked with providing the most effective and efficient means of administering the Colorado State Council budget; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado State Council seeks ways to defray as much of the cost as possible to those Brother Knights who have provided both leadership and representation for their respective councils, districts and the state at the Colorado State Convention.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado State Council shall provide delegates, in place of mileage and per diem, a credit of up to \$40 for a single person and up to \$80 for a couple toward the Convention activities, i.e. Banquet, luncheons, etc. for the 2026 State Convention, provided the delegates lodge Friday and Saturday nights at the hotel hosting the state convention; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Colorado State Council provide the Elected State Officers, Past State Deputies, widows of Past State Deputies and District Deputies, in lieu of mileage and per diem, a voucher in the

amount of up to \$80 for a single person and up to \$160 for a couple toward the Convention activities, i.e. Banquet, luncheons, etc. for the 2026 State Convention, provided they lodge Friday and Saturday nights at the hotel hosting the state convention.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: Adopt

RESOLUTION # 20: COLORADO STATE COUNCIL OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, per capita assessments will be based on the annual budget.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the elected State Officers of the State Council be empowered, per the recommendation of the Budget Committee, to disburse the sum of \$400,500 from the General Fund, in the approximate amounts enumerated hereafter, during the Fraternal Year 2025/2026.

Submitted by the Colorado State Council Elected State Officers

Committee Recommends: Adopt

Appendix A: Colorado State Council 2025 – 2026 Budget

Knights of Columbus Colorado State Council

Budget Overview: FY_2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
Income	
4100 GENERAL INCOME	
4120 4th Degree	
4121 Exemplification Income	13,000.00
4122 4th Degree Misc. Income	1,000.00
Total 4120 4th Degree	14,000.00
4130 FundCrazz/Sweepstakes	
4131 Sweepstakes	65,000.00
Total 4130 FundCrazz/Sweepstakes	65,000.00
4150 State Council Programs	
4152 Coats for Kids	36,000.00
Total 4150 State Council Programs	36,000.00
4160 Miscellaneous	
4161 Bank Account Interest	4,500.00
4165 Misc. Other	1,000.00
4166 Past State Deputy Club	1,000.00
Total 4160 Miscellaneous	6,500.00
Total 4100 GENERAL INCOME	121,500.00
4200 PER CAPITA INCOME	
4230 Per Capita Active	142,000.00
4240 Per Capita Inactive Insurance	2,500.00
Total 4200 PER CAPITA INCOME	144,500.00
4300 REIMBURSED INCOME	
4310 Org Mtg - State Reimbursement	3,500.00
4320 Org Mtg - Supreme Reimbursement	12,500.00
4330 Mid-Year Mtg - State Reimbursement	3,500.00
4340 Mid-Year Mtg - Supreme Reimbursement	6,000.00
4350 State Convention - Package	34,000.00
Total 4300 REIMBURSED INCOME	59,500.00
4400 Supreme Convention 2026 Income	
4410 Convention Registration	25,000.00
4412 Convention Tours Income	40,000.00
4460 Convention Souvenir Gift	10,000.00
Total 4400 Supreme Convention 2026 Income	75,000.00
Total Income	\$400,500.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$400,500.00
Expenses	
6100 STATE OFFICERS EXPENSES	
6110 State Deputy Expenses	
6111 State Deputy Travel	400.00
6113 State Deputy Hospitality	700.00
6114 State Deputy - Other	500.00

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Knights of Columbus Colorado State Council

Budget Overview: FY_2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
Total 6110 State Deputy Expenses	1,600.00
6120 State Officer Allocations	2,375.00
6130 State Officer Monthly Meetings	
6131 Rooms	750.00
6132 Meals	1,000.00
6133 State Officer Meetings-Other	500.00
Total 6130 State Officer Monthly Meetings	2,250.00
6140 State Officer's Travel - Other	
6141 Mileage	1,000.00
6142 Room	1,500.00
Total 6140 State Officer's Travel - Other	2,500.00
Total 6100 STATE OFFICERS EXPENSES	6,725.00
6200 GENERAL EXPENSES	
6210 Misc. Other Expenses	2,000.00
6220 Postage	1,200.00
6230 Stationary and Supplies	4,000.00
6240 Equipment	3,000.00
6245 Storage Unit Fees	3,500.00
6250 Insurance	800.00
6270 Donations	
6271 Donation to State Charities	5,000.00
Total 6270 Donations	5,000.00
6280 Advertising	5,000.00
6290 Audit/Bank Fees	
6291 Audit Fee	4,600.00
6292 Bank Charges	200.00
6293 Merchant Processor Fee	3,000.00
Total 6290 Audit/Bank Fees	7,800.00
Total 6200 GENERAL EXPENSES	32,300.00
6300 PER CAPITA EXPENSES	
6310 Communications	
6311 Software	4,500.00
Total 6310 Communications	4,500.00
6320 Ceremonials & Training	1,000.00
Total 6300 PER CAPITA EXPENSES	5,500.00
6400 STATE PROGRAM EXPENSES	
6410 Rooms	750.00
6420 Mileage	500.00
6430 Program Awards/Supplies	
6432 Supplies/Copies	1,500.00
Total 6430 Program Awards/Supplies	1,500.00
6460 Other Program Expenses	
6461 SOCO Plane Pull	1,000.00

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Knights of Columbus Colorado State Council

Budget Overview: FY_2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
6462 Coats for Kids	36,000.00
6464 Silver Rose	500.00
Total 6460 Other Program Expenses	37,500.00
6470 Sweepstakes	
6471 Sweepstakes Administrative Costs	30,000.00
6472 Sweepstakes Prizes	10,000.00
6473 Colorado State Charities Donation	0.00
Total 6470 Sweepstakes	40,000.00
Total 6400 STATE PROGRAM EXPENSES	80,250.00
6500 STATE MEMBERSHIP EXPENSES	
6510 Rooms	3,000.00
6520 Mileage	1,000.00
6530 Membership Supplies and Incentive	
6531 Incentives	7,425.00
6532 Supplies/Copies	3,000.00
Total 6530 Membership Supplies and Incentive	10,425.00
6560 Other Expenses	1,000.00
6570 New Council Development	500.00
Total 6500 STATE MEMBERSHIP EXPENSES	15,925.00
6600 Organizational Meeting	
6610 Rooms	11,500.00
6620 Food and Beverage	16,000.00
6625 Audio Visual	6,000.00
6630 Hospitality	500.00
6650 Other Organizational Expenses	2,000.00
Total 6600 Organizational Meeting	36,000.00
6700 Mid-Year Meeting	
6710 Rooms	7,500.00
6720 Food and Beverage	5,000.00
6730 Hospitality	500.00
6740 Other Mid-Year Expenses	3,000.00
Total 6700 Mid-Year Meeting	16,000.00
6800 State Convention	
6801 Rooms	26,000.00
6802 Food and Beverage	45,000.00
6803 Audio Visual	13,000.00
6820 Appreciation/Recognition	
6823 Program & Membership Awards	2,000.00
Total 6820 Appreciation/Recognition	2,000.00
6850 Proceedings/DD book	500.00
6860 Supplies	5,000.00
6870 Convention pins	2,000.00
6880 Other State Convention Expenses	3,000.00

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Knights of Columbus Colorado State Council

Budget Overview: FY_2025-2026 - FY26 P&L

July 2025 - June 2026

	TOTAL
Total 6800 State Convention	96,500.00
6900 Supreme Convention	
6910 Travel Supreme Convention	
6911 Bishop's Travel	1,500.00
6912 Clergy's Travel	1,500.00
6913 SO's Travel	4,000.00
Total 6910 Travel Supreme Convention	7,000.00
6920 Hospitality Room	7,000.00
6925 Colorado Night Out	1,800.00
6940 Other Expenses	500.00
Total 6900 Supreme Convention	16,300.00
6950 Supreme Convention - Hosting	
6951 Supreme Convention Registration Expense	25,000.00
6952 Supreme Convention Tours Expense	40,000.00
6953 Supreme Convention Administrative Expenses	
6954 Supreme Convention Website	5,000.00
6955 Convention Gift	5,000.00
6956 Other Convention Expenses	3,000.00
Total 6953 Supreme Convention Administrative Expenses	13,000.00
Total 6950 Supreme Convention - Hosting	78,000.00
7000 4th Degree	
7010 4th Degree Team Travel	4,000.00
7020 Exemplifications	9,000.00
7030 4th Degree Other Expenses	1,000.00
Total 7000 4th Degree	14,000.00
7050 Past State Deputy Club	1,000.00
Total Expenses	\$400,500.00
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$0.00
NET INCOME	\$0.00