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The Catholic faith recognizes the supreme dignity of every person as made in the image and likeness of God. The only appropriate response to this reality is charity. For this reason, the Catholic faith also recognizes that no one, including those who are experiencing same-sex attraction or questions about their own gender identity, should be subject to unjust discrimination. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* addresses this directly in paragraphs 2357 to 2359. Everyone should be treated with respect and dignity.

The Conference opposes LB321 because it would incorporate problematic definitions into law.

LB321's definition of terms such as 'gender,' 'gender expression,' and 'gender identity' undermine the biological and given reality of sexual difference—in short, the reality of the body. As Pope Francis has noted regarding what he has called “the ideology of gender,” “It is one thing to be understanding of human weakness and the complexities of life, and another to accept ideologies that attempt to sunder what are inseparable aspects of reality.”<sup>1</sup> Codifying terminology that serves gender ideology undermines society's understanding of the material reality of the sexed body. This necessarily also undermines the anthropological basis for the family, the most basic building block of society.

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