

IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

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UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS,  
*Petitioner,*

v.

DAVID O'CONNELL,  
*Respondent.*

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*ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO  
THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT*

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**BRIEF OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI  
AND TWENTY-TWO OTHER STATES  
AS AMICI CURIAE IN SUPPORT  
OF PETITIONER**

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**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

As required by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(h), I certify that the document contains **4,282** words, excluding the parts of the document that are exempted by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(d).

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of March 2026.



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AZA SALINDER DONNER  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
District of Columbia

My commission expires April 30, 2029.

