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Statement to the Texas Medical Board

Good morning. I am attorney Gloria Allred, but I am appearing before you today as a citizen of the United States, not as an attorney representing Dr. Bredt or any other person, organization or entity. I am here because I was shocked to learn of what appears to be the forced termination of Dr. Robert Bredt as Medical Director of the Texas Medical Board.

This termination appears to have been based at least in part on a false and defamatory statement made by a Texas legislator about Dr. Bredt.

The legislator posted on X that Dr. Bredt is an “abortionist”.

Had the legislator checked the facts prior to publishing his false and defamatory statements, he would have learned that Dr. Bredt has

never performed an abortion and has never been an “abortionist,” but it appears that the facts did not seem to matter to the legislator.

Instead, the legislator went on a verbal rampage and, according to news reports, demanded that Dr. Bredt be terminated because of his association with Planned Parenthood.

What is especially surprising to me is that the Governor caved in to those demands and Dr. Bredt was told that he needed to either retire or be terminated.

I was surprised by Governor Abbott’s capitulation to the Texas politician’s demands because of the Governor’s judicial opinion when he was a Justice of the Texas Supreme Court. At that time, then Justice Greg Abbott stated:

“Freedom of association for the purpose of advancing ideas and airing grievances is a fundamental liberty guaranteed by the First Amendment. . . . It is immaterial whether the beliefs sought to be advanced by association pertain to political, economic, religious or cultural matters, any state action which may have the effect of curtailing the freedom to associate is subject to the closest scrutiny.”

Unfortunately, it appears that although that is what Justice Abbott believed at the time he stated his judicial opinion, Governor Abbott has not appeared to follow his own judicial opinion, because Dr. Bredt was not afforded due process nor legal scrutiny (let alone “the closest scrutiny”). Instead, Dr. Bredt was terminated simply because he was also employed to oversee a laboratory for Planned Parenthood which is considered by some extremists to be a politically disfavored organization.

It is my firm belief and opinion that Dr. Bredt has been denied his fundamental, constitutional rights. Dr. Bredt has been an exceptional public servant and a true medical hero who has helped countless Texas women to receive access to medical information and test results which have helped them to make informed decisions about their treatment and medical conditions. I believe that Governor Abbott and the Texas Medical Board should reinstate Dr. Bredt and thank him for his three decades of service to Texas women.

Statement of Attorney Gloria Allred

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