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MODEL PERSONHOOD LEGISLATION

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By Statute:

SECTION 1. Purpose.

To provide that human life begins at fertilization or its functional equivalent.

SECTION 2. Definitions.

1. **FERTILIZATION-** The term ‘fertilization’ means the process of a human spermatozoan penetrating the cell membrane of a human oocyte to create a human zygote, a one-celled human embryo, which is a new unique human being.
2. **CLONING-** The term ‘cloning’ means the process called somatic cell nuclear transfer, that combines an enucleated egg and the nucleus of a somatic cell to make a human embryo.
3. **HUMAN; HUMAN BEING-** The terms ‘human’ and ‘human being’ include each and every member of the species homo sapiens at all stages of life, beginning with the earliest stage of development, created by the process of fertilization, cloning, or its functional equivalent.

SECTION 3. Terms.

The legislature of the State of _____ declares that the life of each human being begins with fertilization, cloning, or its functional equivalent, irrespective of sex, health, function, or disability, defect, stage of biological development, or condition of dependency, at which time, every human being shall have all the legal and constitutional attributes and privileges of personhood.

By Constitutional Amendment:

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of _____: SECTION __. Article __ of the constitution of the state of _____ is hereby amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION TO READ: Section __. Person defined. As used in this Article __ of the state constitution, “The term ‘person’ or ‘persons’ shall include every human being from fertilization, or its functional equivalent, to natural death, regardless of age, health, level of functioning, or condition of dependency.