



CONCERNED CITIZEN

April 2008

*A publication of Concerned Women for America of California
CWA is the nation's largest public policy women's organization*

AROUND THE STATE

Marriage Petition Goal Very Near

As of April 1, through the tireless efforts of hundreds of churches and thousands of volunteers throughout the state, over 950,000 signatures of the 1.1 million goal have been gathered to place the California Marriage Protection Act (CMPA) on the November ballot. Thank you for your help!

Action: *If you still have petitions, please turn them in now. They must be in the hands of CMPA by April 8. Please verify that all signers are registered to vote with the name and address shown on the petition and that all signers reside in the same county. Complete the circulator portion before returning your petitions to a distribution center (preferred) or by mail. Visit www.protectmarriage.com to find a center near you.*

Policy Hearings Continue in April

This month will be a busy one at the State Capitol. Most bills must pass their assigned policy committee(s) by April 18 (for bills with a fiscal impact) or May 2 (for non-fiscal bills) before moving to an Appropriations Committee (for fiscal bills) or the floor. In this issue you will find summaries of several important measures and how you can take action now. Please always pray before you act and ask that the words you use in your communications would fall on ears willing to listen to strong arguments for the truth on the issues involved.

For a regularly updated list of our "Targeted Bills" complete with status, sample letters and

more, visit our website (<http://ca.cwfa.org>). We will add and sometimes remove bills as measures and any amendments to them are reviewed, so check back often.

Huff Bill Targets Employer Violations

Assemblyman Bob Huff's (R-Diamond Bar) **AB 2421** requires employers to verify employment eligibility using E-verify system and establishes penalties for businesses that continually hire illegal

aliens. A similar bill was passed in Arizona and signed by Gov. Janet Napolitano (D), who stated, "... I signed (the AZ bill) because it is now abundantly clear that Congress finds itself incapable of coping with the comprehensive immigration reforms our country needs. I signed it, too, out of the realization that the flow of illegal immigration ... is due to the constant demand of some employers for cheap, undocumented labor."

Action: *Please act quickly - the hearing is April 9. Call or e-mail members of the Assembly Labor and*

Employment Committee to support this common-sense measure to curb illegal immigration. Click on the committee link in the status box for AB 2421 on our "Targeted Bills" list to find the committee members.

New Bill Provides Private School Tax Credit

AB 2605, by Assemblyman Alan Nakanishi (R-Lodi), authorizes an income tax credit of \$500 per child in grades K-12 to parents who choose to home school their children or send them to private primary or secondary school. Parents increasingly face the dilemma of enrolling their children in public schools that fall short academically and may undermine their values or enrolling their children in private schools, which forces them to pay for education through their taxes and tuition.

Action: *AB 2605 will be heard on May 5. Address your letter supporting this bill giving modest help to parents to: The Honorable Charles Calderon, Chair, Assembly Education Committee, 1020 N Street, Room 162, Sacramento, CA 95814. (Committee Fax: 916-319-2198)*

CWA of California presents

California Lobby Day 2008

Monday, April 28

8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Join us at the Sheraton Grand, Sacramento for a morning information session with legislators. Spend the afternoon lobbying at the Capitol.

Registration: Adults \$20, Students are free

Visit our Web site (<http://ca.cwfa.org>) to download a flyer and registration form. *All participants (including students) must register in advance, so please do not delay!*

Registration deadline April 21.

E-mail director@california.cwfa.org or call (626) 227-4266 or for more information.

How Do I Find It?

- ◆ Go to our website: <http://ca.cwfa.org>
- ◆ Click the "Targeted Bills 2008" link
- ◆ Scroll through to check all the key bills, their status and the action you can take!
- ◆ Download sample letters and talking points

Need to find your state legislators?

Go to: <http://leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html>

You can also check your phone book or call your local Registrar of Voters' office.

Marriage-Lite Moves Ahead

SB 1066 (Carole Migden, D-San Rafael) passed the Senate Judiciary Committee in March. This bill extends California domestic partnerships to any two persons who share a common residence and are over 18. This means that all marriage benefits would be given to mere roommates, who are unwilling to take the step of commitment of marriage but want all of its privileges.

SB 1066 is not only wrongheaded morally, but fiscally, and creates a situation ripe for fraud. Employers providing domestic partner benefits would be forced to extend insurance and various other advantages to cohabitants of their employees.

Action: *SB 1066 will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee on April 14 and may move quickly to the Senate floor. Please ask your state senator to oppose SB 1066.*

THE NATIONAL SCENE

Tell Congress to Fund Programs That Work

The Centers for Disease Control recently estimated that one in four teenage girls has a sexually-transmitted disease (STD), with the total number of STD cases tripling in just the past six years. While a study in the *American Journal of Health Behavior* indicates that students in abstinence programs are 50 percent less likely to engage in sex, the comprehensive sex education programs that are required in California schools (and from which parents may opt out their students) have been found to have no impact on teen behavior.

What's a country to do? President Bush recommended \$204 million for abstinence education in his 2009 budget. While California has consistently refused this important funding, students in other states will benefit from programs that help teens to understand the high price to be paid from premature sexual activity if Congress agrees to the president's plan.

Action: *Please contact Senators Barbara Boxer (202-224-3553) and Dianne Feinstein (202-224-3841), as well as your representative, and urge them to fully reauthorize Title V Abstinence Education which is set to expire on June 30. Find your representative by zip code at www.house.gov or call (202) 224-3121. Send an e-mail by clicking ["Write Your Representative."](#)*

QUICK TAKES & UPDATES

Gay Activists Risk Lives

Current U.S. health regulations prohibit men who have sex with men (MSM) from donating blood. Joe Solmonese, president of the "Human

Rights Campaign," the nation's largest homosexual pressure group, recently (and falsely) declared this common sense public health precaution to be "discriminatory." He has called for the ban to be lifted with the wildly irresponsible claim that, "[T]here is no medical or scientific rationale for this discriminatory policy." This, despite a recent CDC study that rocked the homosexual community in finding that although MSM comprise only 1-2 percent of the population, they account for an epidemic 64 percent of all syphilis cases.

Countering the Homosexual Agenda

This year the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network will promote its annual "Day of Silence" (DOS) on many high school campuses April 25. The event disrupts class time by encouraging both students and teachers not to speak all day, but to wear T-shirts and pass out cards supporting the homosexual agenda.

Mission America (www.missionamerica.com) has posted an alarmingly long list of schools in California expected to participate in the DOS. Consider calling your child's high school and asking if they are officially recognizing the DOS and allowing students and/or faculty to participate. If they answer affirmatively, please politely indicate your opposition to this distraction from the learning process. *Please pray for the Truth to prevail.*

Speaking of truth, Alliance Defense Fund is sponsoring a "Day of Truth" on April 28. Designed to affect only non-class time, the alternative event focuses on countering special rights for homosexuals by sharing the truth in a respectful manner. For more information and materials, visit www.dayoftruth.org.

PRAYER POWER

Pray that God would give wisdom to pro-life and pro-family leaders, and all his people, granting them favor in the halls of our legislatures to right the wrongs of the past and chart a better course for our children's futures. *Let us search out and examine our ways, and turn back to the LORD. (Lamentations 3:40)*

Pray for the salvation of those who oppose Biblical values and for churches to stand firm in preaching the entirety of the Word without compromise. *For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels. (Mark 8:38)*

Make a difference by getting involved with CWA!

To find out how to join a local Prayer/Action Chapter or get more information about CWA of California, call our office at (626) 227-4266 or e-mail director@california.cwfa.org. To become one of CWA's over 500,000 members nationwide, please send a tax-deductible gift of \$25 or more to CWA of California, P.O. Box 660894, Arcadia, CA 91066

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