



# CONCERNED CITIZEN

March 2008

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

## AROUND THE STATE

### **Calling All Petitions!**

Help us place the Biblical definition of marriage in our state constitution. *The deadline for the California Marriage Protection Act (CMPA) petitions to be returned to ProtectMarriage.com is April 1.* If you have not circulated petitions or if your church has not yet held a petition drive, the right time is NOW. The signature gathering efforts are going well, but we need your help to ensure we have 700,000 valid signatures to place the CMPA on the November 2008 ballot. *Important: Please verify that all signers are registered to vote with the name and address shown on the petition.*

You can download a simple "How To" document to plan your petition drive on our website's "Help Protect Marriage" section at <http://ca.cwfa.org>. There is also a document to help allay any concerns about whether or not churches may participate in initiative efforts – and they certainly may!

Visit [www.protectmarriage.com](http://www.protectmarriage.com) to find a petition distribution center near you. There are hundreds throughout the state. You may also order petitions online. You may also call (951) 354-8362 to request petitions or help the CMPA efforts in other ways, but please do so quickly.

### **Let the Games Begin. . .**

The 2008 deadline for new bills has passed and policy committee hearings have begun. We are currently sifting through a legislative landslide of over 2000 bills, with key measures being posted on our website's "Targeted Bills" list. This list is regularly updated and includes bill status, talking points and sample letters to allow you to

make your voice heard quickly and easily. Talking points help clarify the issue and give you tools to talk to your elected representatives and others about these important topics. Below are just a few of the bills CWA will be tracking. Please pray for our legislators to be persuaded toward righteousness.

### **Bills to Support:**

**Reversing SB 777 – AB 2085** prohibits teachers from giving instruction or schools from sponsoring

activities that reflect adversely upon persons due to race, gender, color, creed, disability, national origin, religion or ancestry. This bill, sponsored by Assemblyman Bob Huff (R-Diamond Bar), deletes "sexual orientation" from this list and returns the code to its pre-SB 777 language.

***Action:** AB 2085 will be heard on April 2. Send your letter supporting AB 2085 to The Honorable Gene Mullin, Chair, Assembly Education Committee, 1020 N Street, Room 159, Sacramento, CA 95814. (Committee Fax: 916-319-2187) See our "Targeted Bills" list for more on this bill and others at <http://ca.cwfa.org>.*

### ***Our Founders' Wisdom***

A general dissolution of principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their virtue they will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader.

~ Samuel Adams

**Parental Notification in Schools –** Introduced by Assemblyman Bob Huff (R-Diamond Bar), **AB 2086** requires schools to notify parents or guardians if their students will be participating in discussions regarding gender identity or sexual orientation. Notices will outline the matters to be discussed and how parents may request that their students are not present during the discussion.

***Action:** AB 2086 will also be heard on April 2. Send your letter supporting AB 2085 to The Honorable Gene Mullin, Chair, Assembly Education Committee, 1020 N Street, Room 159, Sacramento, CA 95814. (Committee Fax: 916-319-2187)*

### **Bills to Oppose:**

**Financial Aid for Illegal Aliens – AB 2083** requires California State University and community colleges (as well as University of California, if approved by the Regents) to offer tuition assistance (grants, scholarships and student loans) to students who are in this country illegally but have attended a California high school. Our families have borne the burden of providing state benefits to

### **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.*

people who are here illegally for too long. We should not be providing millions of dollars in financial aid to illegal aliens, but rather providing those much-needed funds to students who are citizens or legal citizens of the state.

**Action:** *AB 2083 will be heard in the Assembly Higher Education Committee on March 25. Send your letter opposing AB 2083 to The Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair, Assembly Higher Education Committee, 1020 N Street, Room 173, Sacramento, CA 95814. (Committee Fax: 916-319-3961)*

**Licenses for Illegals - SB 60** requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue licenses under the federal REAL ID Act to persons who are not legal residents of the United States. Licenses will not be acceptable for federal identification or other official purposes.

**Action:** *SB 60 is a two-year bill that has already passed the Senate and could be heard on the Assembly floor at any time. Please ask your assemblymember to oppose SB 60.*

## **THE NATIONAL SCENE**

### **Help De-Fund Planned Parenthood**

Rep. Mike Pence (R-Indiana) has introduced H.R. 4133 amending Title X to prohibit family planning grants from being awarded to any entity that performs abortions. Nearly one-third of Planned Parenthood's funding comes from the federal government. While these monies are not earmarked for abortions, they allow the organization to provide other "services" like its graphic TeenWire website that advocates the use of pornography and encourages explorations into bisexuality.

Rep. Steve King (R-Iowa), an H.R. 4133 co-sponsor, commented to Cybercast News Service, "We should shut off all federal dollars to any organization that provides abortion services or counseling. If there is going to be sexual license promoted, let that happen some place else. But the federal government should not be subsidizing it." The Senate version, sponsored by Sen. David Vitter (R-Louisiana) is S. 351.

**Action:** *Please contact your representative and ask him or her to support and become a co-sponsor of H.R. 4133, the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act." Find all contact information by zip code at [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov), call (202) 225-3121, or send an e-mail by clicking "[Write Your Representative](#)."*

## **QUICK TAKES & UPDATES**

### **California Court Finds Homeschooling Illegal**

Last month, California's Second District Appellate Court ruled that nearly all forms of homeschooling violate state law. Parents in the specific case are appealing the ruling to the California Supreme Court. Please pray for this egregious finding to be overturned. You may find out more at the Home School Legal Defense Association website ([www.hsllda.org](http://www.hsllda.org)) where you may also sign an online petition to have the case depublished.

### **CWA of California Conference Audio Available**

If you missed our wonderful conference in January, you may now watch, listen to or download portions online from our website. Click on "[Culture Conference 2008](#)" and choose among the available sessions at <http://ca.cwfa.org>.

### **Do You Know What Your Child Is Reading?**

The use of *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes*, a book laced with vulgarities and graphic homosexual sexual content, at Deerfield High School north of Chicago is a stark reminder that parents must be vigilant in their children's schools. How? Know your child's teachers; review reading lists, classroom syllabi and textbook content regularly. Stay informed of the curricula and policies in your school district by monitoring school board meetings. Join with other Christian parents to pray for your school, perhaps through a "Moms in Touch" group. For more on this story, [click here](#). See our "Back to School Checklist" [here](#).

## **PRAYER POWER**

Please take the battle for marriage to the Lord this month. Pray that signatures will far exceed the required amount to place the Marriage Protection Act on the November ballot. Pray for the justices of the California Supreme Court to rightly discern the truth and rule favorably toward Biblical marriage in the case involving the constitutionality of Proposition 22.

The enemy uses lies to confuse even the righteous. Pray against deception among God's people. *Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words. . . As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. (Colossians 2:4, 6-7)*

### ***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](mailto: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*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_