



# CONCERNED CITIZEN

October 2008

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

## **AROUND THE STATE**

### **Election Approaches – Are You Ready?**

If your church has not already had a voter registration drive, please ask your leadership to provide this opportunity for your congregation. The October 20 deadline is quickly approaching.

Visit our California website at <http://ca.cwfa.org> and click on the "Election Tools" section for more information, including [important election dates](#) and [political guidelines](#) for churches. You can order registration forms from the voter outreach department at your [county registrar of voters' office](#).

### **Yes on Prop 8 – Get in the Game**

By now you have probably seen one of the television ads supporting the restoration of marriage in California. You may have participated in one of the conference calls and begun praying with us for God's hand to move over this state as the election approaches. *Good! Thank you for not sitting on the sidelines.* This is a winnable battle, but it will take all of us working and praying hard between now and November 4.

Please take a moment to visit [www.protectmarriage.com](http://www.protectmarriage.com) to volunteer, donate and get informed. Display a bumper sticker and yard sign, talk to your neighbors and ask your church to attend the next important simulcast event. Please, do not miss:

**The ABC's of Protecting Marriage  
Sunday, October 19 at 5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

***Find a location near you by visiting  
[www.protectmarriagesimulcast.com](http://www.protectmarriagesimulcast.com)***

### **Bill Outcomes Mixed**

When the dust settled on a tumultuous legislative session, the 85-day budget delay was not the only record broken in Sacramento. At final count, the governor had signed 772 bills and vetoed 415, or 35 percent of the bills presented. This was the highest rejection percentage in 40 years. For 136 of the axed measures, the governor used a boilerplate message blaming the budget delay.

We want to thank you for contacting the governor with your veto requests on key bills. Your calls, faxes and letters made a difference. There was both good news and bad, which we recap here.

### **Bills Vetoed (Victory!)**

**AB 2567 Harvey Milk Day** – Would have designated May 22 as "Harvey Milk Day" in California public schools further normalizing the homosexual lifestyle through schools.

**SB 37 Electoral College** – Sought to change our nation's federalist structure by ratifying the interstate compact to amend the electoral college system to a national popular vote.

**SB 60 Drivers licenses for Illegal Aliens** – Would have required 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.

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

And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with His wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that His justice cannot sleep forever.

*~ Thomas Jefferson*

**SB 1301 Financial Aid for Illegal Aliens** – Required state colleges and universities to offer tuition assistance (grants, scholarships and student loans) to some students who are in this country illegally, increasing our state budget in a time of severe deficits.

(Please visit our website and click "Targeted Bills" to view the governor's veto messages.)

### **Bills Signed (Pro-life, pro-family defeats)**

**AB 2654 Sexual Orientation in Business** – Local agencies will

now be required to deal only with contractors and subcontractors who include "sexual orientation" in their equal employment criteria. Various business and insurance company codes will also be affected.

**AB 2747 End of Life Options** – AB 2747 moves California closer to assisted suicide. It requires health care providers who diagnose a terminal illness to provide the patient, at a very emotional time, with end-of-life options including withdrawal of nutrition or hydration. We will be watching for more dangerous anti-life steps in next year's session.

**SB 1729 Sensitivity Training** – Physicians, nurses and other personnel in senior care facilities must now participate in sensitivity training focusing on sexual orientation and gender identity issues. This will increase costs to these facilities and violate the rights of conscience and religious beliefs of many caregivers and facility owners.

The governor also vetoed SB 840, a bill to establish a single-payer health insurance plan (socialized medicine) in California. He signed legislation requiring foster parents to be trained pursuant to last year's SB 777 and, accordingly, to convey to their foster children that schools may not discriminate in activities and programs based on actual or perceived sexual orientation (AB 3015). Patriotism received a boost as SB 1274 was signed. This measure specifies that when students learn the words of the Pledge of Allegiance they also receive instruction on the concepts of "pledge," "allegiance," "republic," and indivisible." They will also learn the importance of the pledge as an expression of patriotism, love of country and pride in the United States."

### **THE NATIONAL SCENE**

#### **You Helped Children with Special Needs**

Thank you for contacting Sens. Boxer and Feinstein with your support for S. 1810, the Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act, prior to our CWA Project 535 lobby team visits last month. We are pleased to report that the bill passed out of the Senate with unanimous consent! This measure will provide parents who receive a positive diagnosis of Down syndrome or other conditions, with the information they need to best care for their child.

### **QUICK TAKES & UPDATES**

#### **Will You Pray for Our Legislators?**

Scripture admonishes us to pray for all those in authority. Marcia Wolfe, CWA's Encourage-A-Legislator (EAL) program coordinator, hopes to pair a CWA prayer partner with each of our California assemblymembers and state senators. ***Will you consider becoming part of this worthwhile program?*** All it takes is a commitment to pray daily for your assigned legislator and send a monthly postcard with a word of encouragement. Materials, including postcards, suggested quotes and Scriptures, are provided in a packet sent to each prayer volunteer. A new legislative session begins in December. Please contact Marcia now to receive your EAL packet. Call (626) 227-4266 or e-mail [encourage@california.cwfa.org](mailto:encourage@california.cwfa.org).

#### **CWA Honors Leaders at National Conference**

Nine CWA of California leaders recently attended our annual leadership conference in the Washington, D.C. area. State Director Phyllis Nemeth announced, "I am pleased to report that our Lompoc Prayer Action Chapter Leader, Mary Eng-

### **CWA of California LA Tri-Counties Area**

*presents*

## ***Celebrate CWA!***

**October 18, 2008**

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Foothill Family Church

19432 Bake Parkway, Foothill Ranch, CA 92610

### **Outstanding speakers:**

**Sally Kern**, Oklahoma legislator

**Tony Nassif**, author of *Jesus, Politics and the Church*

**Shari Rendall**, CWA's national director of legislation and public policy

Registration \$25 (includes luncheon and materials)

Visit <http://cala.cwfa.org> or call (626) 353-7734 to find out more.

***Registration deadline October 13***

holm, was selected as the Prayer Action Chapter Leader of the year by our CWA national office." Mary has been a chapter leader for 19 years.

Phyllis also recently received "Activist of the Year" honors with two other members of the 535 lobby team that makes nearly monthly treks to lobby federal bills in our nation's capital. If you would like to become part of our leadership team in California, please contact Phyllis at (626) 227-4266 or [director@california.cwfa.org](mailto:director@california.cwfa.org).

### **PRAYER POWER**

This battle for marriage is not one we fight with flesh and blood, but with powers and principalities that are unseen. The prayer component is vital! Please join us in praying and, as you are led, fasting between now and the November 4 election. The culmination of this time of calling out to God for a marriage victory is TheCall California, to be held at Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego on November 1. Please visit <http://thecall.com/> for more information and to view the "Facedown 40 Devotionals" that are updated each day.

*If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. (2 Chron. 7:14)*

### ***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: \_\_\_\_\_

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