



CONCERNED CITIZEN

September 2007

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

AROUND THE STATE

Session Wraps Up Soon

The September deadline for bills to complete their paths through the legislature is just days away. The measures will then be sent to the governor, who will have 30 days to sign the bills, veto them, or let them become law without his signature. Please check our "Targeted Bills" list for the current status of the measures we are tracking, many of which could be heard on the floor of the Assembly or Senate any day. Just visit <http://ca.cwfa.org> and click "Targeted Bills 2007" for status, sample letters, and talking points. In this issue, we will focus on asking the governor to veto a number of more egregious bills. Our online list will let you know if the bill has passed or if you still have time to contact your assembly member or state senator prior to a key vote on the floor.

One bit of *very good news* is the demise of SB 11, a bill to allow any two people to form a domestic partnership, further undermining marriage. This measure was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and will not be seen again until next year. Good riddance!

Please Start Calling Now!

Last year Gov. Schwarzenegger established a phone menu for important legislation. Whether through the menu or his staff, calls are quick and easy. All you need do is let the staff member know the bill number and your position to be counted. **PLEASE KNOW YOUR CONTACTS MATTER.** The governor notices the volume of calls. Please understand that the other side is taking the passage of these measures very seriously, so we must be "louder" than they are in terms of call

How Do I Find It?

- ◆ Go to our website: <http://ca.cwfa.org>
- ◆ Click the "Targeted Bills 2007" 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.

volume. If you can, please send a brief handwritten note for even greater impact.

Mail notes to: Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814
Or fax: (916) 445-4633

Phone: Sacramento office (916) 445-2841
To find other offices, click "contact" at <http://gov.ca.gov/interact>. You may also e-mail him from that website.

Our Founders' Wisdom

It is impossible for the man of pious reflection not to perceive in it [the Constitution] a finger of that Almighty hand which has been so frequently and signally extended to our relief in the critical stages of the revolution.

~ James Madison (*Federalist No. 37, 11 January 1788*)

Homosexuality in the Schools

– **SB 777** bans any school activities, programs, textbooks or instructional materials that might be considered "biased" against homosexuality or bisexuality, K-12. SB 777 could stifle any speech supporting traditional values on our campuses. The bill could also have serious consequences for Christian universities. **Action:** *Ask the governor to veto SB 777 and thank him for vetoing a similar measure last year.*

Same-Sex "Marriage" – AB 43 creates "marriage" between any two persons, rather than between a man and a woman as voters required under Proposition 22. *Under the state constitution the California legislature cannot arbitrarily thwart the will of the people, as this bill would do, but many are willing to try.* **Action:** *Ask the governor to veto same-sex "marriage" again.*

Sexual Orientation in Business Code – AB 14 adds "sexual orientation" to nondiscrimination criteria in numerous business and association codes, further stripping the right of conscience for business owners and clubs. **Action:** *Ask the governor to veto AB 14.*

Illegal Immigration – AB 976 prohibits local governments from implementing ordinances requiring a check on immigration status or citizenship for housing and also *prohibits private property owners from making such inquiries.* **Action:** *Ask the governor to support property owners and veto AB 976.*

THE NATIONAL SCENE

Leaving the Nightmare Behind

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) has become a nightmare of red tape, spending and burdensome

SAVE THESE DATES!

**CWA of California's
Culture Conference**

**Friday evening and Saturday
January 25 - 26, 2008**

Fairmont Newport Beach in Newport Beach

Go inside the issues with experts including...

CWA President Wendy Wright

David Kupelian, author of *The Marketing of Evil*

Michael Cutler, Center for Immigration Studies

Matt Barber, CWA Policy Director for Cultural Issues

**Check our website for more details of this
exciting event in coming weeks!**

Preventing Abuse Conference

Protecting Women and Children from
Trafficking and Abduction

**Thursday, November 15, 2007
7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Universal Hilton Hotel in Universal City

\$49 per person (in advance), includes lunch

Excellent speakers discuss topics including:

- Internet safety · Effects of human trafficking
- Protecting children from abduction
- National security and much more

For information & registration call toll free
(866) 454-1776 or visit www.preventingabuse.org

reporting for America's schools. The Heritage Foundation estimates that the act has meant six million hours of paperwork for teachers. Many states have even resorted to lowering their testing standards to adhere to NCLB policies, resulting in a "race to the bottom" that hurts our students.

NCLB must be reauthorized by September 30. A bill sponsored by Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-Michigan), the A-PLUS Act, addresses the flaws in NCLB and gives schools greater flexibility, moving decision making from federal control to the states and localities.

Action: Ask your representative to support the A-PLUS Act (H.R. 1539). Find him or her and all contact information by zip code at www.house.gov or click "Write Your Representative" to send an e-mail message.

AT ISSUE

Preparing to Protect Marriage

In 2000, 61.4 percent of California voters agreed that "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California." Since that language was added to the family code, numerous attempts have been made in various locales throughout the state to thwart the will of people, from rogue mayors issuing illegal "marriage" licenses to the legislature passing bills legalizing same-sex "marriage" only to have them rightly vetoed by the governor. Next year an even more dangerous threat looms as the California Supreme Court prepares to consider the constitutionality of Proposition 22.

In order to protect the definition of marriage from judicial whim, Proposition 22's language must be placed in the state Constitution through an amendment. Reliable and professional polling indicates that in California's current political climate this is the only amendment language that a majority of voters will approve, and it is being supported by a coalition of pro-family organizations known as ProtectMarriage.com.

A combination of grassroots and paid signature gathering could be coming together as early as mid-September, so we ask you to be ready to launch a Protect Marriage signature drive at your church or in your neighborhood. Please ensure that you and your friends are receiving our e-alerts to stay current on the initiative efforts. Subscribe at <http://ca.cwfa.org>. You may also visit www.protectmarriage.com for more information and to order petitions when they are ready.

PRAYER POWER

Ask God to give wisdom to our state legislators, and particularly to Gov. Schwarzenegger. Decisions made over the next several weeks could have repercussions for years to come. *I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. (Psalm 32:8)*

May our gracious Lord protect our children and young adults from a seductive and corrupt culture. May they see with clarity the emptiness of materialism and momentary pleasures, choosing to honor Him (and themselves) by seeking truth, righteousness, and purity. *For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. (1 John 2:16-17)*

Need to contact us?

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, send a tax-deductible gift of \$25 or more to CWA of California, P.O. Box 660894, Arcadia, CA 91066

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