

CITIZEN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG

Vol. XXV No. 2

March/April 2016

Special Elections weaken House Democrats

The new 53-47 margin will have an impact on the rest of the 2016 Session – the Democrat/Stumbo hold has been lessened.

Last Tuesday's election will have an impact on Kentucky history, both in the short-term and in the long-term. Kentucky Republicans have not controlled the House of Representatives since 1922. Though clearly they do not have control of the House now, the new 53-47 margin is as close as it has been in decades, and it signals the next to the last step in a shift coming this Fall when most of the House seats are challenged by newcomers to politics.

In the short term, there are numerous bills that are currently being held in House committees with little or no chance for hearings that are now in play because it will only take three Democrats to side with the Republicans to get them moving.

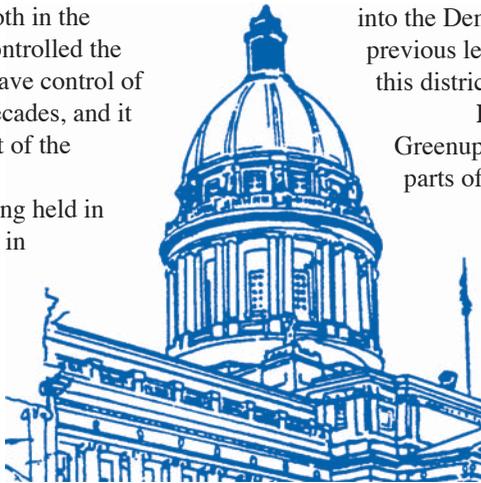
In the long run, the direction of the state will shift if the momentum in these Special Elections continues – the Senate has been controlled by the Republicans, the Governor's mansion was just claimed by Republicans last Fall and the House is moving in that direction. If these three do in fact line up, there will likely be conservative fiscal and social policies that will begin to flow from Frankfort, a stark contrast to that of the last 20 to 30 years of policy.

The Four Special Elections

District 8 - parts of Trigg and Christian Counties: Democrat Jeff Taylor defeated Republican Walker Thomas, keeping this Democrat seat previously-held by Rep. John Tilley in the Democrat column.

District 54 - Boyle and Casey Counties: Republican Daniel Elliott defeated Democrat Bill Noelker, keeping this seat, previously-held by Republican Rep. Mike Harmon, now State Auditor, in the Republican column.

District 62 - Scott and Owen Counties and parts of Fayette County: Democrat Chuck Tackett defeated Republican Phillip Pratt, releasing this previously-held Republican seat



into the Democrat column. Commissioner of Agriculture Ryan Quarles was the previous legislator from this district.

District 98 - Greenup County and parts of Boyd

County:
Democrat
Lew
Nicholls

defeated Republican Tony Quillen, keeping this previously-held Democrat seat in the Democrat column. Rep. Tanya Pullen had held this seat.

Given the new 53-47 ratio and the Democratic House blocking bills, Kent Ostrander, executive director of The Family Foundation, said, "This puts everyday citizens in the driver's seat during the last few weeks of the 2016 Session. They only have to make the calls to Frankfort."

"This puts everyday citizens in the driver's seat during the last few weeks of the 2016 Session. They only have to make the calls to Frankfort."

– Kent Ostrander
The Family Foundation

Bills can still move!

Review pages 2-6 to check the status of key bills in the Assembly.

You can still ACT!

Few outside Frankfort understand just how important it is to encourage your legislator to do the right thing. Read the descriptions of key bills inside and let your voice be heard!

Oops . . . We goofed!



Rep. Tim Moore represents District 18 – portions of Hardin and Grayson Counties

In our last *CITIZEN* (the January/February edition), we quoted Rep. Moore when Senate Bill 4 (The Face-To-Face Consultation Bill) passed as saying, he "saw the Lord bring about the victory that He wanted."

This was the first pro-life bill that was heard on the House Floor since 2006 – 10 years – so there was

reason for rejoicing! Unfortunately we described him as "Rep. Tim Moore (D-Elizabethtown)." Yes, he is Rep. Tim Moore. And yes, he is from Elizabethtown . . . but we goofed – it should have read (R-Elizabethtown) because, he is, indeed, a Republican. (Sorry, Rep. Moore.)

House Bill 364: The Student Privacy Act

This bill authorizes accommodations for the student with gender identity issues AND will uphold privacy rights for all students.

School administrators in Kentucky are being confronted with students with gender dysphoria (biological males who think they are girls and vice versa). These students want to use the bathroom and locker rooms of the opposite biological sex.

The Obama Administration is pressuring schools to allow students to decide what their “gender identity” is and use the facilities of the sex they believe they are. Despite the objections of many parents and students, at least one



Kentucky public high school is allowing a biological male in the girls' facilities.

The Student Privacy Act allows administra-

“Schools should not be used as vehicles to advance the Obama Administration’s liberal social agenda.” – Joyce Ostrander

tors to care for students with gender dysphoria while still respecting the privacy rights of all the other students.

Under this Act, administrators would determine how best to accommodate all students except they would not be allowed to place students of opposite biological sex in the same bathroom, locker room or overnight accommodation at the same time.

“The purpose of Kentucky schools is to educate Kentucky students,” says Joyce Ostrander, policy analyst for The Family Foundation. “Schools should not be used as vehicles to advance the Obama Administration’s liberal social agenda.”

Call 1-800-372-7181

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave this message for **“all the legislators from your county.”** (Senators and Representatives)

“Pass The Student Privacy Act - House Bill 364”

This bill protects the gender identity student as well as the privacy rights of all other students. And, in addition, it gives the local schools options.

Two Federal Courts Side with Student Privacy

In 2015 two cases of students with gender dysphoria were decided in Federal Court. In both cases, the students were biological females identifying as males who sought to use their school’s male facilities.

One school was a public university and one was a public elementary school. In both cases the schools did not allow the student to use the bathroom of the opposite biological sex nor did they require the student to use the bathroom that matched their biological sex. Instead they provided an alternate facility.

Both schools were sued for discrimination under Title IX and, in both cases, the schools were found “not guilty” of discrimination in Federal Court.

Obama Administration Threatens with Loss of Funding

The Obama Department of Education has been telling School Districts across America that they must allow students with gender dysphoria to use the bathroom and locker room of their choice or the school will be guilty of violating Title IX.

Title IX was enacted in 1972 and prohibited discrimination based on sex in schools that receive federal dollars. Title IX was enacted to “level the playing field” for women regarding entrance to schools and programs available to them. The most obvious effect of the law was in athletics, where Title IX allowed facilities and programs to be different and separate, but required they must also be funded “equally.”

Now the Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights is claiming that Title IX means students with gender dysphoria must be allowed to go into the bathroom or locker room designated for the sex they self identify as or the school will be guilty of gender discrimination. The Obama Administration has threatened school districts with loss of Federal funds if they do not comply. Two Federal District Courts have disagreed with the Administration’s interpretation of Title IX. The Administration is appealing.

House Bill 364 Gives Local Control

Currently the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C. is trying to dictate

Status of House Bill 364

- ↓ In Senate Committee
- ↓ Passed Senate Committee
- ↓ Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- ↑ Passed by Full House
- ↑ Passed House Committee
- In House Committee

policy for Kentucky schools. The Student Privacy Act would maintain local control by returning the decision to Kentucky citizens.

Local control would be further maintained by allowing individual administrators to determine how best to accommodate all their students given their unique student body, programs and facilities. The bill simply eliminates one option – administrators *cannot* place students of opposite biological sex in the same locker room, rest room or sleeping accommodation at the same time.

Opponents say Transgender Students are Vulnerable

Students with gender dysphoria are not the only students who feel vulnerable, awkward, bullied, and unfortunately, even suicidal. During the sensitive teen and pre-teen years emotions and fears often lead to isolation and destructive behavior. All students should be cared for while still balancing the needs of other students.

Many students forced to share facilities with a biologically opposite student have spoken out about their right of privacy being violated. Especially sensitive are those students who have been victims of sexual abuse. All students’ sensitivities, vulnerabilities and rights should be considered when developing school policy.

Serious Questions Raised

Should the male in the girls’ locker room now play on the girls’ teams?
Should the female in the boys’ bathroom now bunk with the boys on the Senior field trip?
When other students recognize the student is biologically a different physical gender, won’t this invite harassment and ridicule?

Can students identify as the opposite biological gender one week and revert to their biological gender the next week? What about students who identify as “bisexual” or “fluid”?

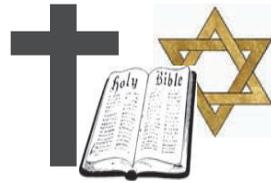
In deciding this issue, why should psychological gender trump biological gender?

Senate Bill 180:

The Religious Liberty / Rights of Conscience Act

Marriage may have been re-defined by the Supreme Court, but no one should be forced to violate their conscience.

Across America, Religious Liberty and Rights of Conscience have been intensely under attack for more than two decades . . . and especially in 2015. To stop the onslaught, this bill underscores the underlying premise of the First Amendment – in particular, the “free exercise” of religion and its undergirding of the rights of conscience. By so doing, it is an effort to properly apply Thomas Jefferson’s “wall of separation” that he proposed in order to *keep government out of a citizen’s free exercise of their faith.*



“No human authority shall, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience.” – *Bill of Rights - Sec. 5 Kentucky Constitution*

Especially since last June’s *Obergefell* same-sex marriage decision, individuals and organizations have attempted to force others – in violation of

their consciences – to participate in same-sex wedding ceremonies. This is all contrary to the Kentucky Constitution.

Consider: When *Roe vs Wade* was decided in 1973, citizens were not forced to participate in an abortion against their sincerely-held beliefs. However, now, with *Obergefell*, activists are trying to use the U.S. Supreme Court decision to bring the force of law against people with deeply-

held and centuries-old spiritual convictions.

Those who this bill protects are American workers such as cake bakers, photographers, florists and ministers – “Protected Service Providers” – all who often serve in the wedding ceremony realm and who do not want to use their personal, contracted, customized and specialized skills in furthering something that violates their conscience and faith teachings.

Call 1-800-372-7181

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave this message for **“all the legislators from your county.”** (Senators and Representatives)

“Pass the Religious Liberty / Rights of Conscience Act - Senate Bill 180”

This bill protects citizens from the legal entanglements from choosing not to participate in a same-sex marriage or other event contrary to one’s sincerely-held faith.

The Kentucky Constitution - Bill of Rights section 5:

“No human authority shall, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience.” Gov. Beshear failed to honor the Kentucky Constitution and protect Kim Davis and her conscientious stand.

The Freedom of Conscience - Uniquely American:

Even during World War II, when the ongoing existence of America was in question, the United States government never forced a conscientious objector to pull a trigger and violate his conscience. Why are we now changing our standard over *same-sex marriage*? This bill protects the rights of conscience for *ALL* – LGBT and straight.

Constitutional Rights or the Power to Force Obedience?

In the first federal court hearing in the lawsuit against County Clerk Kim Davis on July 13, it was interesting to note that the plaintiffs and their ACLU attorneys were willing to drive from Rowan County, through Carter County and into Boyd County in order to pursue their lawsuit, but were unwilling to drive to any one of the seven neighboring counties to get their marriage license. The second hearing on July 20 was even more striking: they had to drive from Rowan County to Kenton County – a minimum of five counties. Obviously, this is not about getting a marriage license . . . It’s *ALL* about the use of the power of government to force other citizens to comply even if it forces them to violate their consciences.

Status of Senate Bill 180

- In Senate Committee
- Passed Senate Committee
- Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- Passed by Full House
- Passed House Committee
- In House Committee

Legal Cases of Intimidation and Intolerance

Recent legal cases have highlighted the unprecedented targeting of citizens, simply because they believe participating in or promoting same-sex marriage violates the teachings of their faith.

Consider Elaine Huegenin, a young New Mexico photographer, who in 2006 declined to photograph a same-sex wedding celebration. She believed using her artistic talents in that setting would violate the teachings of her faith. Elaine took her appeal all the way to her state Supreme Court where she lost. The resulting fines, legal expenses and hostile climate forced her out of business.

Consider Baronelle Stutzman, a floral shop owner who has served her community members regardless of their “sexual orientation” for 35 years. For 10 years, Baronelle provided flowers for a gay gentleman she considered a friend. However, when she declined to create floral arrangements for his same-sex wedding, he sued her. Baronelle’s case is now before the Washington State Supreme Court. The Court has allowed her to be sued both as a business and personally. If she loses her appeal, she will owe over \$1 million and lose her business, her home and her retirement.

Consider Sweet Cakes by Melissa. The owners have served their community, both gay and straight, but were fined and ordered to pay \$135,000 in emotional damages to a lesbian couple for declining to create a wedding cake for them. Melissa and Aaron Klein’s business has been forced to close. Aaron is now working for a trash collection company trying to support their five children while they await their appeal. Perhaps more disturbing is that the regulatory agency initially hearing their case ordered the Kleins not to speak publicly about their reasons for declining to participate in same-sex weddings.

All these were prosecuted under the banner of “Fairness.” Ask them if they believe they are being treated with “fairness.” Citizens want a public square with mutual respect.



Pro-life bills deserve a debate and a vote!

The House - "peoples' Chamber" - is where issues should be debated. Pro-life bills should not be blocked any longer!

Bills: Senate 7, 25, 152, 212 / House 257, 492

Since 2004 – for 12 years – no new pro-life bills have been allowed on the House Floor by House Leadership. Clearly, whether you are “pro-life” or “pro-choice” you would be for honest and robust debate on issues that separate us. This should be particularly true for the House of Representatives, which holds the distinction as “the peoples’ Chamber.”

Senate Bill 7 - Tiered Funding of Abortion Providers: After the discovery of Planned Parenthood’s selling of fetal body parts for profit, this prioritizes funding so that public funds are given first to organizations that do not provide abortions. This bill cleared the Senate on Feb. 2 with a vote of 33 to 5. Since then, SB 7 has been stalled in the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee.

Senate Bill 25 - Ban on Sale of Fetal Body Parts: This bill bans the sale of aborted baby parts in Kentucky. It is in response to the video revelations from last year, demonstrating that Planned Parenthood was profiting from the deliberate harvesting of body parts taken from aborted fetuses. This bill cleared the Senate on Jan. 27 with a bipartisan vote of 36 to 2. Since then, SB 7 has been in the House Judiciary Committee.

Senate Bill 152 - The Ultrasound Bill: This is a common-sense Ultrasound Bill that simply lets the patient see all the hi-tech information that patients in all other surgeries are offered. The House has repeatedly killed all Ultrasound bills for more than a decade. Kentucky’s two abortion clinics advertise that they already do ultrasounds so there is no increased cost. It passed the Senate 32 to 4 on Feb. 29 and was placed in the House Health & Welfare Committee.

House Bill 257 - The Unborn Child Respect Act: This bill bars the dismemberment of an unborn child and it provides for the humane disposal of the fetal remains. The bill has 56 co-sponsors, demonstrating to all that if the bill is brought to the House Floor, it will pass. Unfortunately it has remained in the

Status of Senate Bill 7

- ✓ In Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- ↑ Passed by Full House
- ↑ Passed House Committee
- ✓ In House Committee

Status of Senate Bill 25

- ✓ In Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- ↑ Passed by Full House
- ↑ Passed House Committee
- ✓ In House Committee

Status of Senate Bill 152

- ✓ In Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- ↑ Passed by Full House
- ↑ Passed House Committee
- ✓ In House Committee

Status of House Bill 257

- ↓ In Senate Committee
- ↓ Passed Senate Committee
- ↓ Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- ↑ Passed by Full House
- ↑ Passed House Committee
- ✓ In House Committee

Call 1-800-372-7181

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave this message for “all of the Representatives from my county.”
(The Senate is already pro-life. The House is the battleground.)

“Pass [Name your Bill(s)] -
Senate (or House) Bill [number]”

These bills are drafted to protect mother or child or both.
Make a call on each one of them and give your message to your County’s member(s) of the House.

House Health & Welfare Committee (the “Graveyard Committee”) under Chairman Tom Burch since being sent there on Jan. 19.

House Bill 492 & Senate Bill 212 - Abortion Clinic Regulations: These two almost identical bills protect women by regulating abortion clinics like any other free-standing surgery center. This means that they cannot slip by with less-than-standard safety measures as has been allowed by Gov. Beshear. HB 492 is stuck in House Health & Welfare Committee and SB 212 just began its process in the Senate.

Status of House Bill 492 and Senate Bill 212

- ✓ In Senate Committee
- ↓ Passed Senate Committee
- ↓ Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- ↑ Passed by Full House
- ↑ Passed House Committee
- ✓ In House Committee

The deceit is evident for all to see

A quick glance of 2008 and 2009 illustrates the on-going problem over the years: House Leadership uses committees strategically to kill pro-life bills.

In 2008: After The Ultrasound Bill unanimously passed the Senate committee and then the full Senate by a wide bipartisan margin of 32-4, there was significant reaction when then-House Judiciary Chairperson Kathy Stein (D-Lexington) personally killed it by denying her committee members the opportunity to vote on it.

In 2009: With Stein now a Senator (gone from the House), The Ultrasound Bill passed the Senate with a similar 33-4 majority. Then Rep. Tom Burch (D-Louisville), chairman of the House Health and Welfare Committee, publicly promised to kill it if it was sent to his committee. Sure enough, House Leadership sent the bill to Burch’s committee – not to the Judiciary Committee where the new chairman was more supportive. Proponents and opponents alike believe it would have passed the full House with more than 80 votes.

Kentucky should be leading, not following

With 48 Pregnancy Care Centers and a majority of pro-life legislators in both Chambers, it's time we do our part against abortion.

Kentucky was once ranked by Americans United for Life (AUL) as the thirteenth most pro-life state in the nation in regard to positive legislative actions taken. But that was before the ten-year moratorium on all pro-life bills initiated by the various configurations of Democrat House Leadership over those years. Kentucky has been in a free-fall since 2004 and is now ranked twentieth in the nation by AUL.

The fact of the matter is that it is not just pro-life bills that are being held hostage in the House now, it is other pro-family and traditional values bills as well. This Session it has stymied the religious liberty bills crafted to undo some of the wrongs extrapolated from last year's *Obergefell* same-sex marriage ruling.

But, the four Special Elections have moved all of the pieces of legislation closer to being heard, debated and passed by the House. And if passed by the House, there is a tremendous likelihood of their passage by the Senate (if it has not already done so) and becoming law. March 8 was a great day in Kentucky history.

Now, we must each do our part.

Kt

Years of deception are exposed

If a picture is worth 1000 words, then an ultrasound is an encyclopedia - SB 152.

During the *Roe v Wade* years of the 1960s and 1970s, all kinds of phrases were used to disguise what abortion really was. Now that ultrasound technology has come into its own, pro-choice or pro-abortion advocates must do all they can to block its implementation . . . and that they have done for the last number of years in Kentucky. But even a simple review of what they said in the startup years is revealing. Here are some of their lines:

“It is just a parasite.”

“It is just a blob of tissue.”

“It is only a ‘product of conception.’”

“We’re just going to restore your period.”

“We’re only going to terminate your pregnancy.”

“Abortion is safer than giving birth to a full term baby.”

“I would rather have an abortion than have a cavity filled.”

“Life begins when the baby can survive on its own.” (Age 15????)

“It’s only a fetus.” (Latin for “little one” – Abortionists avoid the term “baby.”)

An Ultrasound
is a window
into the
womb

Steve Beshear is the first Kentucky governor in decades that did nothing to protect the unborn

No pro-life bills passed during his eight years . . . and his Party's House Leadership is currently resisting pro-life bills.

Kentucky was a pro-life state even during the entire *Roe vs Wade* court process. So, it is no surprise that the Commonwealth would be ranked among those states with high regard for the sanctity of human life. In addition, in looking back at the legislative record of the General Assembly there is no surprise that, though at times the going was slow, there was always an incremental step forward toward new regulation and new accountability for abortionists with each new Governor's administration. So it is with raised eyebrows that observers must consider Gov. Steve Beshear's eight years of service and recognize that there was no pro-life piece of legislation signed into law, and no executive order helping protect the unborn.

Clearly, it cannot be fully his responsibility. The House Leadership has blocked all pro-life bills since 2004 and that includes the tenures of two different Speakers: Jody Richards and Greg Stumbo. In fact, that includes the latter half of Gov. Ernie Fletcher's term who regarded himself, and who was seen, as a pro-life person.

And though most Republicans in the House are pro-life, there is a significant core of pro-life Democrats as well, mainly those representing rural districts.

The question ultimately boils down to this: Was the lack of pro-life will in the House a result of Gov. Beshear's position on abortion, or was he simply allowing House Leadership to have its way on an issue that is not central to him?

Beshear has been a strong supporter of Planned Parenthood (PP), at least since the 1980s. That fact ended his first bid for Governor when he was eliminated in the 1987 Democrat primary after his ties to PP were revealed when protestors picketed a Lexington fundraiser.

In 2013 he called upon PP national president Cecile Richards to ask him to veto the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. She did send a letter requesting such and he did veto the bill, but the legislature overrode his veto and the facts of the manipulation leaked out.

In recent weeks it was learned that during his last month in office he okayed Planned Parenthood's January opening of another abortion clinic in Louisville without proper licensing. And just last week it was revealed that his Administration had not been properly inspecting Kentucky's abortion clinics during his tenure.



Gov. Beshear: A sad legacy

Senate Bill 15:

The Student Free Speech and Religious Liberty Act

Christian students at all levels in education should no longer be sent to the “back of the bus” because of their personal faith.

This bill would prevent schools from infringing on the basic First Amendment rights of students in classroom assignments and speeches, and would require schools to grant religious student groups access to public forums in the same way they grant access to all other groups.

It would allow a valedictorian to “thank my parents and God” in their graduation address – no longer will the word “God” be censored. Students would no longer be intimidated by school officials just because they are people of faith. In addition, it would allow free artistic and literary expression when the school chooses to present plays that may have religious verbiage in them (i.e. *A Charlie Brown Christmas*).

It would also clarify that school officials may not discriminate against a student group (like a Christian Student Fellowship) simply because the group conducts its internal affairs and elects leaders in accordance with its stated mission.

Currently, many schools contend that a student only has free speech in designated “free speech zones.” That does not appear anywhere in the U.S. Constitution or the Kentucky Constitution and no American – other than a student today – is told they cannot speak up and share their



thoughts unless they stand in a special “zone.”

The bottom line is that this bill would list students’ rights, giving them protection from school officials or outside groups who talk about tolerance and diversity, but who actually practice intolerance.

Call 1-800-372-7181

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave this message for “*all the the Representatives from your county*”. (It has passed the Senate; it is in the House.)

“Pass The Student Privacy Act - Senate Bill 15”

This bill protects the religious liberty and free speech rights of students who are often intimidated by ignorant or even anti-Christian educators and administrators.



Sen. Albert Robinson is the sponsor of both Senate Bills 15 and 180

sponsored them both. One deals with the school system and the other focuses on the market place.

Status of Senate Bill 15

- ✓ In Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed Senate Committee
- ✓ Passed by Full Senate
- Signed by Governor
- ↑ Passed by Full House
- ↑ Passed House Committee
- ✓ In House Committee

Two bills that work against the cultural slide against religious freedom are Senate Bill 15 and Senate Bill 180 (See page 3 for SB 180) Sen. Robinson (R-London) has

SB15 Does Not Create New Rights

Multiple court cases and existing law have repeatedly established these rights of students. However, because these rights are not clearly spelled out in statute form, often students, parents and administrators are uncertain about where the line is.

The Student Free Speech and Religious Freedom bill clarifies the existing law so that schools are not intimidated by people who wrongly threaten to sue just because somebody sings a Christmas carol.

As former Governor and current State Senator Julian Carroll (D-Frankfort) pointed out in testimony, “People are so afraid of crossing the line that they aren’t getting anywhere near it.” This bill would eliminate that fear by clarifying the law regarding what students can and cannot do and say.

Charlie Brown’s Christmas is Okay

This bill simply catalogues existing law so that schools are not intimidated by people or groups who wrongly threaten litigation because somebody sings a Christmas carol or prays before an athletic contest.

The courts have ruled that schools may include religious content in plays and performances. Students may “Thank God” in their graduation speech, and *A Charlie Brown’s Christmas* is legal to perform. Students can pray, read their Bible, and they do not have to go to a free speech zone in order to share their perspective or their opinion.

Teachers, principals, administrators as well as parents and students will benefit by the clarity this bill brings.

Encouraging Critical Thinking & Free Exchange of Ideas

Suppressing a viewpoint is contrary to learning and developing critical thinking skills. Not only that, tolerating only ideas and world views that are “politically correct” can be very dangerous - leading to indoctrination rather than real education.

Students learn to make decisions and to innovate when there is an appropriate, respectful, free exchange of ideas, not where there is censorship.

SB15 Discourages “Viewpoint Discrimination”

Many conservatives and people of faith have been experiencing increasing pressure to be silent about their beliefs and opinions. Some students have felt their views are unwelcome in the classroom.

This bill would clarify that students may not be discriminated against if their viewpoint differs from that of their teacher or administrator.

Kentucky Marriage Movement schedule

These are wonderful opportunities to build and strengthen that which is so important – a solid, life-giving marriage.

London, March 11-12

Art of Marriage video conference - FamilyLife
Calvary Baptist Church
111 North McWhorter Street, London, KY 40741



Willisburg, March 15 - April 5 (Tues)

Love and Lordship Series - Greg Williams
Isaiah House
2084 Main Street, Willisburg, KY 40078

Nicholasville, April 1-2

Love and Lordship Conference - Greg Williams
Nicholasville Assembly of God
1701 Wilmore Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356

Owensboro, April 15-16

Art of Marriage video conference - FamilyLife
Bellevue Baptist Church
4950 State Route 56, Owensboro, KY 42301

Lexington, April 22-23

Love and Respect video conference - The Eggeriches
Porter Memorial Baptist Church
4300 Nicholasville Road, Lexington, KY 40515

Frankfort, May 5

National Day of Prayer - Greg Williams
State Capitol building
700 Capitol Avenue, Frankfort, KY 40601

For more, call us at: **(859)255-5400** or visit: www.kentuckymarriage.org

Major decision on Instant Racing slot machines

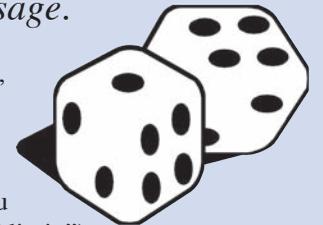
YOU can help influence this major decision. Call Gov. Bevin's office and leave your kind, clear message.

The Bevin Administration must decide whether to continue Gov. Beshear's efforts to legalize Instant Racing slot machines or back-off the lawsuit that Beshear's Revenue Cabinet, Horse Racing Commission and eight horse race tracks filed in a "common interest" agreed case. Gov. Beshear and his Administration worked to have the machines installed and utilized *before* they were declared legal. The case has been in court for more than five years but a court decision has not been rendered. Yet the machines still are functioning.

If Gov. Bevin decides to move forward in support of the machines, he will complete Gov. Beshear's gambling legacy for him. Beshear tried numerous times to expand gambling in Kentucky, failing with every legislative effort that he attempted because the General Assembly did not want to legalize casino gambling or expanded gambling of any kind. But Beshear's last effort was through the court system that would deliberately target the poor. The Beshear Administration tried to have a judge rule that the use of horse racing-themed slot machines was pari-

mutuel wagering on horse races. Indeed! In one brief, the Revenue Cabinet actually argued that it was pari-mutuel wagering on horse races "in the mind of the patron." (In other words, if you are pulled over for speeding you may be able to get out of the ticket if you just tell the officer, "In my mind I was going the speed limit.")

Concerned about manipulation, The Family Foundation petitioned to enter the case in August of 2010. The Foundation's attorney, Stan Cave, has argued the case against overwhelming odds but has made great strides in recent months, particularly by uncovering the fact that Instant Racing machines use random number generators – like slot machines. This is not horse racing! We just need you to encourage Gov. Bevin lest he's tricked by Instant Racing lobbyists who like to assert that the machines are legal. They have never been judged legal and yet they are still operating.



Leave this kind, supportive message on Gov. Bevin's Message Line: **502-564-2611**

"Please stop the Instant Racing slot machines."

NOW is the time to make a difference in Frankfort!

There are three weeks left in the 2016 Session.

WORKDAY on March 15: Come to Frankfort on Tuesday, March 15. Meet with us at 9:00 AM in the Rotunda to begin a Frankfort “WORKDAY” lobbying legislators. Tuesday’s elections and YOU can change things. Call us if you are coming: 859-255-5400

MAKE the CALLS:

Make the calls in this *CITIZEN* on each of the bills listed. *YOU* have an opinion (God’s opinion) and if you don’t share it, it won’t be heard.

GO to the WEBSITE:

There are even more pro-family bills described that need your help.

Please contact us!

Pass it on!

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The Family Foundation



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@KentuckyFamily



Sign up for our email UPDATE by emailing to:

kent@kentuckyfamily.org

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It is easier to tell the truth than to lie

Senate Bill 180 has been targeted by groups and individuals who preach tolerance but do not practice it themselves.

It is easier to tell the truth than to lie, because when you lie, you have to make stuff up, and making stuff up is hard. So perhaps the most positive thing to say about many of the criticisms of SB 180 – The Religious Liberty/Rights of Conscience Act, is to congratulate the critics on the effort and imagination it must take to misrepresent it so badly.

The *Lexington Herald-Leader*, acting in its usual role of mouthpiece for liberal groups, said the bill would “let businesses refuse to serve gay customers for reasons of faith” and, in its editorial several days later, would “overturn local ordinances” that ostensibly protect gays from “discrimination.”

You would really have had to work up a sweat to think up a mischaracterization that bad.

SB 180 was written specifically to stop anti-religious bullying. It focuses on the protection of rights of conscience of business owners very carefully and limits these protections solely to those services that involve the service provider personally in the event for which the service is being provided. This would cover only a very small number of cases.

Not only would the bill protect the Christian photographer who is asked to provide his creative services for a same-sex wedding, but it would protect the African-American T-Shirt company who might be asked to print a T-shirt with White Supremacist messages.



Martin Cothran is the senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation

SB 180 has nothing to do with a waiter serving a meal at a restaurant or a cashier at Wal-Mart, as the *Herald-Leader* coverage implied. All it does is to stop the increasingly aggressive bullying of people of faith who would be forced to provide a service that would directly involve them in an activity that violates their religious convictions.

The critics of SB 180 in and outside the media don’t seem to want to actually read the bill—either that or they deliberately misrepresent it.

While the *Herald-Leader* and the groups apparently feeding it its lines claim to be opposed to discrimination, they are instead promoting anti-religious hatred and encouraging the bullying of people who are minding their own business and simply trying to do the right thing according to their religious beliefs.

SB 180 would provide a very small safe space for religious people whose livelihoods are increasingly being threatened by those who preach tolerance, but who seem to have very little idea about how to practice it themselves.

The critics ought to issue a retraction. That would be the honest thing to do. And the nice thing about honesty is that it requires very little effort and no imagination at all.

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