

# CITIZEN

**STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG**

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## **The GA deeply needs encouragement NOW**

*With of all the hassle in the House of Representatives and the heavy-lift fiscal issues, legislators **NEED** to hear from folks back home.*

Republican-controlled House and Republican-controlled Senate were racing forward with their conservative agenda – passing seven bills in the first five days of the 2017 Session. The speed is not the same in 2018 for a number of reasons.

Among the bills passed early last year were two strong pro-life bills: Senate Bill 5 – 20-Week Abortion Ban and House Bill 2 - The Ultrasound Bill. Other bills included conservative fiscal matters relating to unions and prevailing wage laws. All seven were heard in the committees of both Chambers and on the Floor of both Chambers and passed by Saturday evening Jan. 7.

This year, with the House “texting controversy” decapitating the House Leadership and causing significant pain and division in the Republican Caucus, there are major questions about whether that Chamber can settle and get anything done. Clearly, when the majority Party is in disarray, there is often no consensus to move forward on anything.

Even the Democrats have been divided by the fallout from the controversy. On Jan. 9, former Speaker Jeff Hoover (*R-Jamestown*) proposed a resolution to the recently altered House rules regarding disciplining House members. When the House voted on

whether to consider Hoover’s proposal, 40 members voted “Yes” – including 27 Republicans and 13 Democrat), 40 voted “No” – including 26 Republicans and 14 Democrats, and 18 members did not vote at all – 6 Republicans and 12 Democrats. (Only 98 votes were counted

because there are currently two open seats in the 100-member Chamber.)

The question now is whether the House members, particularly in the Republican Caucus, will be able to set aside their differences over the texting issue and move forward on the bills and issues that unite them and got them elected to the majority in 2016. By Jan. 31 – 20 legislative days into the Session and clearly one third of the way

through this 60-day “long” Session – that question is still unanswered.

This “uncertainty dynamic” puts the people of Kentucky in the driver’s seat as to what will get done. Legislators need to hear from those back home. If they do, the encouragement they receive will likely make the difference as to whether this will be a successful Session or simply a gathering that results in little getting done.

The fact of the matter is that in the legislature, “Nothing moves unless it’s pushed.” When the legislators are not aligned they are virtually hamstrung. In these moments, it is the people that can be the “prime movers.”

“We are highly encouraging those citizens who care about the family to speak up at this moment in time,” said Kent Ostrander,

executive director of The Family Foundation. “Their calls could easily become the rallying cry for legislators, helping them to coalesce and focus in order to get good, pro-family things done.”

The stage is set for a highly productive 2018 Session if Kentucky citizens do in fact get involved, or for a mediocre Session if they choose not to. That’s exactly how government of the people, by the people, and for the people was designed.

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**“We are highly encouraging those citizens who care about the family to speak up at this moment in time. Their calls could easily become the rallying cry for legislators, helping them to coalesce and focus in order to get good, pro-family things done.”**

– Kent Ostrander  
The Family Foundation

**“Instant Racing” 4-Day Trial is Over**

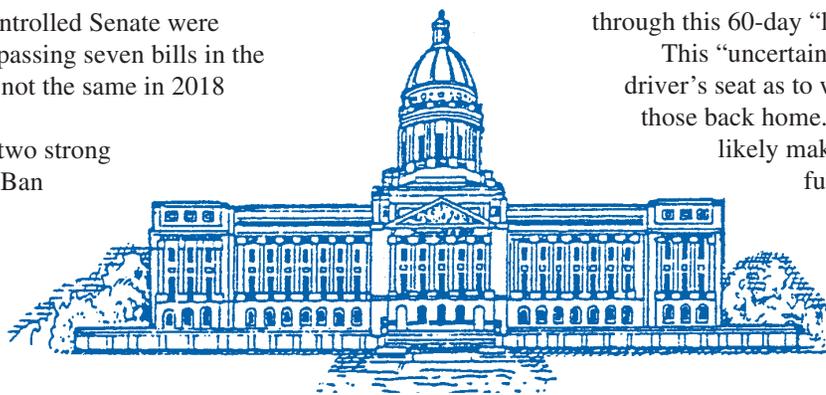
*see page 2*

**Make your calls with YOUR perspective**

*see page 2-3*

**Critical Action: Volunteer for 4 hours**

*see page 8*



# Trial of Encore gambling system held Jan. 8-11

*Encore is just one of the brands of “Instant Racing” machines that TFF maintains are not pari-mutuel as required by law.*

Stan Cave, attorney for The Family Foundation, waged a one-man battle in court against as many as 13 attorneys from the Kentucky Horse Racing Commission and Kentucky’s eight horse race tracks for four days during the second week of January. The next step includes attorneys from both sides of the issue writing briefs and then responding to one another’s briefs. A decision in the case will likely not come out until late Spring.

“Stan did an outstanding job with the case,” said Kent Ostrander, executive director of The Family Foundation. “He probably was the most knowledgeable individual in the court room on the details of the gambling system, how it works and whether it meets the requirements of the Kentucky Revised Statutes and Regulations.”

One of the points that The Family Foundation maintains is that this gaming system is not “pari-mutuel.” Pari-mutuel wagering is an exception to Kentucky’s gambling prohibitions. “Pari-mutuel” is a French compound word coming from the words “pari” defined as “a bet” or “a wager,” and “mutuel,” literally meaning “mutual.” *Pari-mutuel* is a mutual bet or wager. These definitions confirm what Americans already know about pari-mutuel wagering on horse races because all the bettors are wagering mutually among themselves on a horse race.

In the Encore system, a patron is betting alone and he is not betting on the same historical race as anyone else. In addition, his bet does not affect the outcome of any other previous

**“It’s the different between a queue to use the telephone in an old-fashioned phone booth and the higher technology of a conference call . . . in this sense, the Encore gaming system is not “pari-mutuel,” but rather “pari-serial” or pari-sequential.”**

wagerer’s bet, and a portion of the prizes are fixed. No other patron or wagerer is engaged at the exact same moment. In other words, there is no “mutuality.” It literally is

“instant wagering” because of the computer’s speed with only one patron betting.

It’s the difference between a queue to use the telephone in an old-fashioned phone booth and the higher technology of a conference call – one person using one phone at a time compared to all *mutually* using their phones in one conference call at the same time. In this sense, the Encore gaming system is not “pari-mutuel,” but rather “pari-serial” or *pari-sequential*.” Literally, in French it would be “betting *serially*” or “betting *sequentially*.”

Cave raised other arguments in court, but all related to these gambling systems not being pari-mutuel wagering on horse races. Clearly, the law would have to be changed.



**They argue in court that this is not casino gambling, but their billboard just one exit away says the opposite.**

## Calling the Legislative Message Line: *(See page 3)*

*The number is 800-372-7181 and it only takes about 60 seconds.*

Call the toll-free Legislative Message Line and leave one simple message on each bill for your legislators (*Senators and Representatives*). You do not have to speak to your legislators – simply leave a message for them with the receptionist. If you do not know who your legislators are, the receptionist can tell you when you share your county of residence. *OR*, because some counties have more than one representative and one senator, you can simply say “Give my message to ALL the legislators in my county.”

Multiply your impact by: 1) Having your spouse call; 2) Calling once in each week for each bill; and 3) asking the receptionist to “copy” your message to “members of House and Senate Leadership” so the key leaders of each Chamber also hear from you.

Here is an example: Just call and simply say something like *“Please tell my legislators to . . .*

*“Vote for HB115 - We need Chemical Abortion Reporting”*

And end each call with (because of all the gambling expansion efforts), *“And please no expansion of gambling.”*

Call in the evening! The Legislative Message Line is open from 7 am to 9 pm EST Mon-Thurs. It closes at 6:00 pm on Fri.

*Knowing what is good and right and upright makes you the salt. Knowing what is good and right and upright but NOT sharing it, makes you the salt that has lost its savor – its flavor. We must speak truth to power and righteous ways to government. It’s how our Founding Father created this nation; a nation that would have its people – the good, bad, and ugly – direct its course. As Edmond Burke said, “All it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.” Therefore, WE MUST make the calls!*

# Here are some bills on which legislators need your encouragement. Help them – *Make your calls!*

By calling with YOUR upright perspective, you are “prophesying” to them. (See page 2)

## Bill

### Senate Bill 71: **Inclusion of Abstinence in all Sex Ed** by Sen.



*Stephen Meredith* – SB71 requires that abstinence before marriage be included in all sex education offerings in the Kentucky public school system. This is in response to efforts by several national and very liberal groups that have tried to push Kentucky schools to do more radical and graphic programs.

### HCR 93 & SCR 105: **Limiting Human Trafficking** by Rep. Donna



*Mayfield & Sen. C.B. Embry* – Two Concurrent Resolutions, one in the House and one the Senate, urge Congress to close the loophole in the Federal Communications Decency Act that gives greater immunity to sites such as “Backpage.com” that knowingly and recklessly advertise sex with trafficking victims. *Note: A bill is currently before Congress.*

### House Bill 103: **Ultrasound Reporting** by Rep. Joe Fischer – Requires



a physician or qualified technician to provide a written medical description of images depicted during a required ultrasound prior to an abortion so the woman has all the information about the decision she is making prior to the abortion. *Note: The 2017 Ultrasound Bill is tied up in court.*

### House Concurrent Resolution 34: **Marijuana Research** by Rep.



*Danny Bentley* – HCR 34 actually delays legalization of medical marijuana by asking the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to expedite the process of reviewing the efficacy and safety of cannabis and cannabinoids for medical use. The legislature is not equipped to discern its benefits and risks.

### House Bill 115: **Chemical Abortion Reporting** by Rep. Robby Mills



– HB 115 requires a physician to report prescriptions for misoprostol, mifeprax, or any other drugs that are intended to end a pregnancy. Currently, the FDA requires such to be given in a hospital, clinic or doctor’s office. The ACLU has filed suit to make them available at a pharmacy.

## For & Against

**Advocates:** Young people need responsible guidance. Sex is a good and safe thing when kept within the bond of marriage.

**Opponents:** We are all sexual animals so experimentation with others is good and natural as long as you use protection.

**Advocates:** These are backed by 51 Attorneys General, as well as multiple law enforcement and legal groups, including the *Center for Missing and Exploited Children*.

**Opponents:** Thus far, the only opponents are *Google.com*, which has hired lobbyists in Kentucky to lobby against the resolution.

**Advocates:** A woman needs to receive complete information on her pregnancy and unborn child. Currently, she does not see an ultrasound image of her unborn child.

**Opponents:** A woman does not need to see anything prior to her abortion. It’s her body and it’s her choice.

**Advocates:** This resolution urges the FDA to determine the benefits and harms of marijuana, treating it like any other drug.

**Opponents:** Want marijuana to be legalized now. They site benefits, claim it is safe and want to tax its sale.

**Advocates:** These are strong drugs that can have dangerous side effects. It is appropriate that a record be kept of who is receiving chemical abortions, their age and other vital statistics.

**Opponents:** This decision is between a woman and her doctor and no one else should be involved and no reporting required.

## Status

Passed Senate Committee on Jan. 11 and full Senate Jan. 23 with a vote of 32-5. It is now in the House.

Both have been filed in their respective Chambers but have not moved out of Committee.

Has been filed in the House but has not moved out of Committee.

Passed House Committee on Jan. 22 and full House Jan. 24 with a vote of 73-5. It is now in the Senate.

Has been filed in the House but has not moved out of Committee.

## Historic bills will be filed. *Let your voice be heard!*

*Legislators often wait to share their best bills until after the Jan. 30 filing deadline to challenge incumbents.*

Fearing a one-issue challenger, legislators often wait to share the bills about which they are most passionate until after the filing deadline. Who would want to pick up a challenger on a single issue?

That said, there are a number of rumblings around Frankfort that suggest this could be a very productive Session. Certainly one with intense debates.

An adoption reform bill is likely to be offered. Kentucky has too many children waiting for families . . . *and every child needs a Mom and a Dad.*

More pro-life bills are expected.

There is talk about a Student Right of Privacy Act that would grant ALL students the right of privacy in rest rooms, locker rooms and shower rooms. That’s a new approach compared to the “bathroom bill” model. Yes, students could not be mixed as boys and girls in areas of undress, but it reaches for a higher principle – privacy for all.

There is talk about a bill that would protect churches and religious schools from having to get involved with all the LGBT issues, since churches and religious schools don’t embrace such life-styles. Simply a “Live and Let Live” bill that would challenge the “tolerance” folks to be tolerant of other’s religious convictions.

And several gambling bills are likely to be rolled out after Jan. 30. Expect all kinds of them: casinos bills, sports betting, and casinos at race tracks, etc.

The most important thing to remember is that *YOU* play a role. Step out in faith and make your calls – you and your friends will truly move mountains.

**Bill status changes daily. For weekly emailed updates, email “UPDATE” to [kent@kentuckyfamily.org](mailto:kent@kentuckyfamily.org)**

# US military in limbo over Obama transgender order

*The ultimate question is what the change does to morale and combat readiness, but it also impacts the individual soldiers. (See story below.)*

On July 1, 2016, the Obama Administration directed the U.S. military to allow transgender soldiers to serve openly within the ranks, and set the date for active recruiting and inclusion of transgender persons to start a year later. It did not escape notice that Obama waited until the eleventh hour of his presidency and then set a date that would take effect under his successor.

Just hours before the July 1, 2017 mandate arrived, a six-month delay was announced by the Department of Defense to allow for additional study.

A few days later, Rep. Vicky Hartzler attempted to amend the NDAA (National Defense Authorization Act) in order to block any defense spending for gender reassignment therapies or surgeries for soldiers. The amendment was defeated with a 209-214 vote. It is estimated that although transgender soldiers make up considerably less than 1 percent of the military, this change in military policy will cost taxpayers around \$3.7 billion over the next ten years.

On July 26, 2017, President Trump announced that “the United States Government will not accept or allow Transgender individuals to serve in any



capacity in the U.S. Military.”

In an August 25 Presidential Memorandum, Trump outlined that actively serving troops who came out as transgender under Obama’s directive can continue to serve until the results of a Pentagon study are published on March 23, 2018. Since transgender inclusion had been decreed unilaterally by President Obama, it seemed reasonable that as Commander-in-Chief Trump could also make an executive decision to reverse the new policy.

Apparently, one judge didn’t think so.

On October 30, 2017, a U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Columbia, Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, issued a preliminary injunction against plans for rolling back the inclusion policy and demanded that the military begin accepting new transgender recruits by Jan. 1, 2018.

The Justice department has since requested several emergency stays, which have been denied by the same judge. As outside observers watch to see this judicial overreach battle play out, the military and its service members remain in limbo.

## Privacy in the military: A female officer’s testimony

*With all the focus on the sexual rights coming from our nation’s universities, are we not losing the right of privacy for other citizens?*

*EDITOR’S NOTE: This is the personal testimony of a Kentucky mother of four who is an officer in the Army Reserve. Her name is deliberately withheld.*

“As I listened to our company’s June 2017 legal brief detailing the forced inclusion of transgender people into our ranks, I scanned my soldiers’ faces for signs of their thoughts. We were being informed that if a soldier were simply to walk into a military doctor’s office, complete a course of “treatment,” which could range from as little as several counseling sessions to a full sex change operation, their gender

designation would be changed from male to female or vice versa. As soon as the designation was switched in the military records system, the soldier would immediately be eligible for full inclusion into their newly acquired gender class.

“In the civilian world, this type of designation can be somewhat ideological; but in the military world, it means something very practical. In austere environments, soldiers share open showers, open latrines, open sleeping quarters; simply put, there is no privacy.

“The lawyer calmly informed us that this policy could

mean that we would find ourselves standing in the shower or bunking up with somebody who still had the body parts of the opposite sex but had the designation of our gender. If we were uncomfortable with this arrangement, it was our problem; and if we expressed our discomfort, we would be the one removed from the situation.

“At the conclusion of the brief, the questions flew thick and fast, especially from my female soldiers. They asked if these transgender soldiers would be required to carry an ID that would show their gender, and if they could be asked to show it before getting in the shower with them.

“The answer was, ‘Negative, putting that information on an ID or asking to see it would be discrimination.’ I could see fear and embarrassment etched across their faces. Considering the fact that between 1-in-3 to 1-in-4 females have been sexually assaulted before they even enter the military, this fear does not seem unfounded.

“Ever since the Obama administration decreed in 2016 that the military would be open to transgenders, we as soldiers had been preparing ourselves mentally for what shape this inclusion would take. When the details were released in 2017, we were still unprepared for the seismic

cultural and policy shift that was passed off as a minor adjustment.

“Throughout the last several decades, the armed forces have aggressively trained against and prosecuted those who are guilty of sexual harassment or assault. Now we were being ordered to cast aside all caution and fully embrace the idea that no harm could come to us or our soldiers by sharing the most private settings with anybody who arbitrarily claimed the same gender, or even perhaps, with those who pretend to share our gender in order to perpetrate sexual violence.

“As an officer in the United States Army, my primary job is caring for my soldiers. I take my job seriously. There is only one reason soldiers should ever be placed in harm’s way, and that is to ‘support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. . . .’

“It should never be in the name of tolerance and inclusion.”



**A female soldier should also have rights**

# SOGI ordinance ignores religious convictions

*Paducah's "Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity" ordinance illumines significant religious liberty problems on the horizon.*

Though Paducah is one of the furthest points west in Kentucky, it's recent passage of a "Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity" ordinance (a SOGI) will likely find its way into the very center of freedom and religious liberty debates for months to come. What happened there on Jan. 9 was shocking.



Kentucky currently has nine local SOGI ordinances. The cities include Covington, Danville, Frankfort, Lexington, Louisville, Midway, Morehead, Paducah, and Vicco.

**Paducah City Commissioner Richard Abraham attempted to pass a religious exemption amendment for business owners. Several SOGIs without exemptions have already been challenged . . .**



**Richard Abraham**

But Paducah became the only Kentucky city to pass one after a Fayette Circuit Judge issued an April 27, 2015 decision holding that Lexington's SOGI ordinance had been used to violate the religious liberty and free speech rights of a local business owner.

A Kentucky Court of

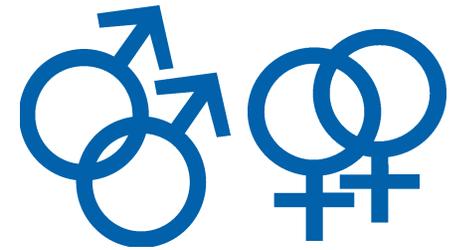
Appeals panel affirmed that decision on May 12, 2017. The Kentucky Supreme Court is currently considering the case.

Paducah also became the only Kentucky city to pass a SOGI ordinance while the U.S. Supreme Court is also deliberating *Masterpiece Cakeshop* to decide a similar case in which Colorado sought to force a baker to create a custom wedding cake for a same-sex couple in violation of his conscience and religious beliefs.

Justice Kennedy, whose vote will likely determine the outcome, expressed frustration during the oral arguments on December 5. He told Colorado's Solicitor General that "tolerance is essential in a free society. And tolerance is most meaningful when it's mutual. It seems to me that the state in its position here has been neither tolerant nor respectful of [the baker's] religious beliefs."

Paducah City Commissioner Richard Abraham attempted to pass a religious exemption amendment for business owners. Several SOGIs without exemptions have already been challenged and are currently before the highest courts of the Commonwealth and nation. After his amendment was rejected, Abraham was the only vote against the SOGI ordinance. He told the *Courier-Journal* that while discussing the amendment, he "felt like Solomon. But instead of holding up a baby I was holding a Constitution."

The director of a group behind the effort to pass SOGI ordinances throughout Kentucky admitted that religious liberty protections, such as those proposed by Abraham, "really take the teeth out of the ordinance."



## The Church IS God's salt and light for Kentucky

*Some want to "box in" the Church so that it only speaks about theology, but His Word and His Truth address all areas of life.*

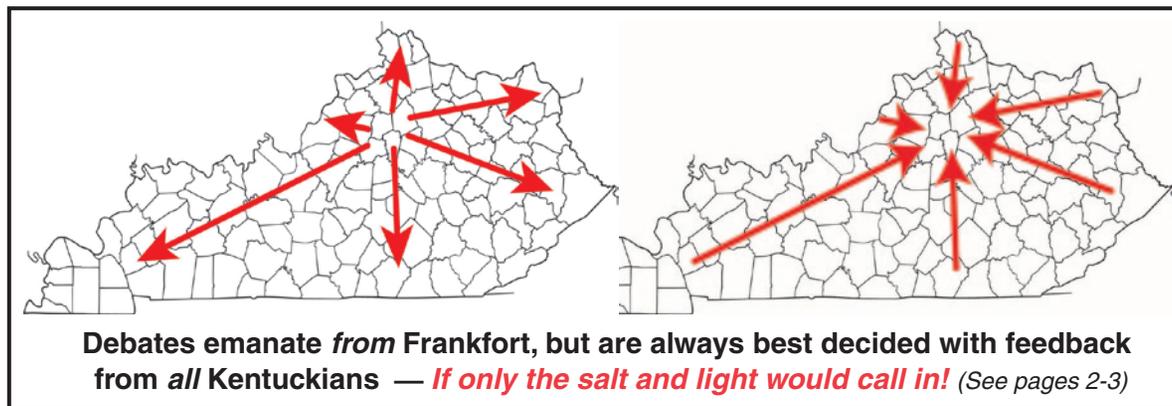
There are those who say that "the Church" should not speak about the issues of the day. Before one responds to that assertion, one must first define what "the Church" is. "Church" literally means "the called-out ones." It is the people who follow Jesus who make up the Church who have been "called out of darkness and into His marvelous light."

Should all the people who are citizens of the United States or citizens of Kentucky who follow Jesus *NOT* participate in discussions or in elections or in calling their legislators with their perspective regarding what's best for the state?

Of course not. Each member *SHOULD* participate.

Each member of a church is also a citizen, so they have a dual role to walk out: First, as a citizen of the Kingdom, they must "render to God that which is God's." And second, as a citizen of the United States or of Kentucky, they must "render to Caesar that which is Caesar's."

As believers share their vision (God's vision) or their perspective (God's perspective), they "flavor" the culture



**Debates emanate from Frankfort, but are always best decided with feedback from all Kentuckians — *If only the salt and light would call in!* (See pages 2-3)**

around them and they "shed light" on the question at hand from God's perspective. Not to participate would be to "lose your savor" or to "put a bushel over your lamp."

Perhaps most important of all is to recognize that if God's perspective is not shared or discussed, then God's perspective will not have an impact on the decisions made in Washington D.C., in Frankfort or in any city council. Is that God's will . . . that His perspective is neither shared nor considered?

Given the darkness that has been moving across the nation for the last 30 or 40 years, it is time for those godly members of the Church to rise up and do what they were

created to do (by God) and what the nation asks them to do (by the Founders) — *PARTICIPATE!*

With the issues of the 2018 General Assembly Session being discussed – Religious Freedom for Churches and Religious Schools, Students Right of Privacy (for restrooms, locker rooms and showers in schools), the Sanctity of Life, and Human Trafficking – it is critical that godly people let their voices be heard.

The Family Foundation will be distributing a special newspaper with details on the various pieces of legislation to make it easier for citizens to let their voice be heard — to be the salt and the light.

Join with us! (See related stories on pages 2-3 and 8)

**Together we can move mountains!**

**Please help . . . (just 4 hours)**

To volunteer, call us at 859-255-5400  
or email us at [kent@kentuckyfamily.org](mailto:kent@kentuckyfamily.org)

# News Briefs:

## TFF helps bring another *amicus* before the US Supreme Court.

The Family Foundation is not a legal organization; it's a policy organization. Yet, in recent months The Foundation has collaborated on several "friend of the court" briefs at the US Supreme Court. Once again, via *amicus* brief, The Foundation is urging the Supreme Court. This time it's to overturn the efforts of California legislators who passed legislation requiring pregnancy resource centers (organizations that help pregnant mothers and save the unborn) to disseminate information to their clients regarding where they can secure an abortion – "forced speech." This is one case that's worth the investment!



## Rep. Tim Moore initiates "Pro-Life Caucus" in House with Resolution 96.

The Kentucky House of Representatives marked the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Roe v. Wade* U.S. Supreme Court decision legalizing abortion with the passage of House Resolution 96.

HR 96 reflects upon that "tragic day" which legalized "the destruction of innocent children in their mother's wombs;" acknowledging that "more than sixty million have lost their lives by abortion in America" since then, "countless numbers of women have been victimized both physically and emotionally by abortion," and "men have had their roles as fathers and husbands adversely affected." Providing a glimpse of hope, HR 96 points to adoption as a "loving alternative to unplanned pregnancy" and the "millions of qualified couples who are waiting to adopt."

Shifting focus to within the Commonwealth, HR 96 also recalled that the Kentucky House had sought to pass legislation preventing the destruction of innocent unborn children and to protect their mothers for many years, but was blocked for years by Leadership from doing so. Last year that changed.

Building upon the success of the 2017 Legislative Session in "passing legislation that further protected both the unborn and the women" seeking abortions, the Kentucky House recognized the official establishment of the **Pro-Life Caucus** as "a contingent of members who have committed themselves to defending innocent life and pursuing policies and legislation to right this judicial wrong." Both, the passage of pro-life bills and the recognition of a **Pro-Life Caucus**, were not allowed under the years of Democratic control.

Resolution 96 was sponsored by Rep. Tim Moore, co-sponsored by a large majority of the House, and adopted by voice vote on Jan. 22, 2018.

## Rep. Danny Bentley moves marijuana research resolution.

There are those within Kentucky that are pushing to join 29 other states in legalizing medical marijuana. The major problem, according to House Concurrent Resolution 34, is that the decision to legalize medical marijuana in those states has not been based on "a careful scientific weighing of the benefits and risks of the use of marijuana for certain health purposes."

Rep. Danny Bentley, a professor of Pharmacology, sponsored HCR 34 to "expedite research on the safety and effectiveness of the use of marijuana's compounds for certain health purposes." Bentley cautioned his fellow lawmakers against adopting drug policy without thorough study, citing several examples of serious consequences in history. "When we have not had the most careful study, we have ended up with unintended consequences," he said. Dr. Bentley also explained that without comprehensive research and FDA approval, legislators cannot make a responsible decision.

HCR 34 passed the Kentucky House 73-5 on Jan. 24, 2018. It now proceeds to the Kentucky Senate, where it must be passed before being sent to Gov. Bevin's desk. If it completes that process, copies of HCR 34 will be sent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the Drug Enforcement Administration.



## FEMA reverses itself regarding aid to churches in disaster areas.

After a policy change by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), churches are no longer excluded from disaster aid.

Three Texas churches had filed a lawsuit against FEMA for being denied disaster aid in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey. Two Florida synagogues damaged by Hurricane Irma also filed a lawsuit. The lawsuits claimed a violation of the First Amendment in light of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Trinity Lutheran* decision in which the Court ruled it was unconstitutional to exclude a church from a state grant program for playground resurfacing.

In light of the Court's decision last June and the lawsuits, FEMA announced the voluntary change to its policy before the 5<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on the case. This reversal is welcomed with respect to disaster aid, but, more importantly, it's another step in the battle with anti-religious sentiments that have been on the rise in America.



FEMA

## Dangers of "commercial surrogacy" raising questions of its value and ethics.

Surrogacy is a growing business in the United States, but the case of a December baby born in Texas reveals some of the dangers that can accompany it.

Sixteen weeks into the surrogate's pregnancy, the doctor noticed an abnormality in the unborn baby's heart. A specialist then diagnosed the unborn child with Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS), a birth defect which causes the heart's left side to be critically underdeveloped. The child could go on to live a fairly normal life, but would need heart surgery a few days after birth and two additional operations later in childhood.

When the intended parents were informed, they demanded the surrogate get an abortion. The surrogate refused and the intended parents stopped paying medical bills. Fearing that the intended parents would not allow the child to receive life-saving surgery after birth, the surrogate hired attorneys and contacted state agencies advocating for the life of the child she carried. (Surrogates by contract have no rights after a baby is born and are most often prohibited from seeing the baby after birth.)

The child was delivered by C-section on Dec. 21, 2017. On Dec. 22, the Dallas County District Attorney's Office confirmed that the intended parents had agreed to do anything necessary to keep the child alive and healthy. Similar cases have occurred in other states.

Surrogacy contracts such as these are legal in most states, including Kentucky, and the debate over the ethics involved continues.



*Opinion: They don't like religion if you do it wrongly and they don't like it if you do it properly. They just don't like religion.*

# **BREAKING NEWS: ACLU confused about religion**

Last year, the Kentucky General Assembly passed a "Bible Literacy" bill. The ACLU of Kentucky expressed concern about the bill, but didn't oppose it outright. Now it is in full panic mode, warning the Kentucky Department of Education that there are schools already out there who are teaching religion.

The Family Foundation was instrumental in the passage of this legislation, having worked for several years in the State Senate to have a bill introduced by Sen. Robin Webb (*D-Grayson*), a bill the language of which was adopted by the Republican House and later passed into law.

During one of the committee hearings, opponents of the bill argued that, in order to be objective, the bill would have to include books from other religions. I was at the table, helping to introduce the bill to the Senate. I responded that the bill was not a religious bill, the bill was a cultural literacy bill.

The facts and stories of the Bible, whether you agree with them or not, are strewn throughout English, World Literature and History and that, in fact, you cannot understand much of this literature and history if you do not know the constant Biblical references and allusions contained in them.

One senator asked why we did not include knowledge of the Koran in the bill.



**Martin Cothran is the senior policy analyst for The Family Foundation**

I answered because the Koran was not a part of our country's history and literature. A knowledge of the Koran would do precisely nothing in helping students to understand other books they were reading in school, which is what the bill was all about.

The same bill was later introduced by Rep. D.J. Johnson (*R-Owensboro*) in the House, and it passed and was signed by Gov. Matt Bevin.

Now the ACLU—always on the lookout for rogue manger scenes and ever making sure that the Ten Commandments (which commonly grace the statuary of state and federal courthouses and government buildings) are kept away from public viewing—is ringing alarm bells about the law.

They have trolled the state's schools and claim to have discovered numerous violations of the Constitution. You know,

that part of the Constitution which says that the government should be hostile to religion. It's in the section of the Constitution that requires there to be same-sex marriage and abortion on the demand—which is to say that it's really not in there at all.

Here's what their website says: "The investigation uncovered public school teachers using the Bible to impart religious life lessons (Barren, McCracken, and Letcher Counties), use of online

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**What is actually a little humorous is that the ACLU is demanding that the Department of Education come up with guidelines on how the Bible should be taught as literature in order to prevent these things. Did they not read the Bible Literacy bill?**

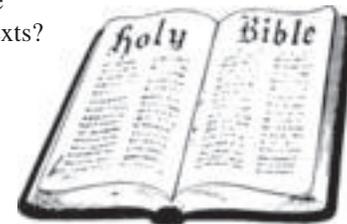
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Sunday School lessons and worksheets for course source material and assignments (Letcher and Wayne Counties), and rote memorization of Biblical text (McCracken County) – practices which fall far short of academic and objective study of the Bible and its historical context or literary value."

For one thing, don't we commonly do many of these things in other courses? Don't history lessons often involve life lessons? Don't we often have students

memorize literary texts?

At least I hope we still do these things. And we don't say that these make the study of history or literature any less academic and objective when we do it.



But what is actually a little humorous is that the ACLU is demanding that the Department of Education come up with guidelines on how the Bible should be taught as literature in order to prevent these things.

Did they not read the Bible Literacy bill? Did they not notice that the Bible Literacy bill does precisely that? It requires the KDE to come up with guidelines on how to teach these courses. *That's it's whole purpose.*

In other words, the ACLU is actually in favor of the Bible Literacy law, they just don't know it.

We won't tell them if you won't.



## ***The Kentucky Marriage Movement***

### **Georgetown, Feb. 9**

**"Loving Extravagantly" - Love and Lordship - Greg Williams**

**Gano Baptist Church - MOPS**

**212 Bevins Lane, Georgetown, KY 40324**

### **Carrollton, Feb. 16-17**

**Love and Lordship Conference - Greg Williams**

**Carrollton Christian Church**

**310 5th Street, Carrollton, KY 41008**

### **Carrollton, Feb. 11**

**Real Love – Real Influence - Greg Williams**

**Carrollton Christian Church**

**310 5th Street, Carrollton, KY 41008**

### **Paris, Feb. 25**

**Love and Lordship - Greg Williams**

**Faith Baptist Church (*Faith in the Home* all day conference)**

**919 Pleasant Street, Paris, KY 40361**

**For more information, call (859)255-5400 or go to [www.kentuckymarriage.org](http://www.kentuckymarriage.org)**

# The Body of Christ must speak now



*We could actually make history. Do you want to?*

Here is our situation: At this moment we have a good Governor, godly majorities in both the House and Senate, and yet our legislature is uncertain because we have a leadership vacuum in the House of Representatives. What is needed is a clear, encouraging voice that says, "This is the way, walk ye in it." (Isaiah 30:21)

That's your voice . . . and my voice. It's *our* voices! Are we perfect? No. Are we "super" smart? No!

But we do know right from wrong, and that is what Kentucky

(and America) needs in this

moment of time – people who will speak up and give their elected officials the confidence and encouragement to move forward on *His* agenda.

The Family Foundation has a plan to get good information in the hands of godly people who can respectfully, yet firmly let their voices be heard. In fact, (if they are indeed godly people) they will let *God's voice be heard* on the issues before the General Assembly.

If God's people speak responsibly and respectfully, they will be heard and they will alter the debate in Frankfort because legislators will respond to the Lord's direction.

It's a spiritual matter. The ultimate question is this: Will we be spiritual and lead?

## *Can you volunteer for 4 hours?*

We can serve by helping the Body of Christ to stand as one . . . by helping to facilitate Jesus' one unanswered prayer in John 17. Imagine if the members of Kentucky's 4,000 Biblically-oriented churches *ALL* prayed and then called the Legislative Message Line and weighed-in on the issues that address God's values and wishes. (See pages 2-3)

Think about it! It would be much like the Israelites marching in unison around Jericho . . . or the 120 early Christians meeting in the upper room. We don't have to be one in *ALL* our doctrine (our God is too complex and we are too small to understand everything about Him.) But if we stand together for the truths that bind us in His family (— *HIS* family values), those truths can heal our land.

The Session is one third over. *NOW* is the time for us to pray and act . . . and then watch what the Lord does.

Will you volunteer to help in your county? Just four hours?



**Kent Ostrander is the executive director of The Family Foundation**

*Please help. Call/Email me now!*

To help for **just four hours** during the first half of February, please call or email us **as soon as possible**.

Include your name, phone number, email address and the county in which you live.

**(859)255-5400 or [kent@kentuckyfamily.org](mailto:kent@kentuckyfamily.org)**

## The Kentucky *CITIZEN*

Executive Editor  
*Kent Ostrander*

Editor  
*Mary Kunze*

### Contributing Editors

*Martin Cothran*

*Joyce Ostrander*

*Greg Williams*

*Michael Johnson*

*David Moreland*

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**The Family Foundation**

**P.O. Box 911111**

**Lexington, KY 40591-1111**

**859-255-5400**

**e-mail: [kent@kentuckyfamily.org](mailto:kent@kentuckyfamily.org)**

**Web site: [www.kentuckyfamily.org](http://www.kentuckyfamily.org)**

The Family Foundation  
P. O. Box 911111  
Lexington, KY 40591-1111

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*The Family Foundation is pleased to support:*



*Christians at the Capitol*

**Friday, Feb. 9, 2018**

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM *Legislative Session &*  
11:15 AM - 1:15 PM *Four 30-minute Sessions*

*For more details, go to:*

**<http://www.godandcountryministry.com>**

**Annual Rally for Life in Frankfort**

*Friday, March 1, 2018*

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the Capitol Rotunda



*For both events, bring drivers license as ID to enter the Capitol.*