

# FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

April 18, 2004

*The views expressed herein are the views of the Editor, Vernon Fix. FBA on the Web at <http://hrcc.exis.net>*

## Virginia's Tax Retreat

*April 15, 2004; Page A14 Wall Street Journal*

Virginians have repeatedly told their lawmakers not to raise taxes. They've done so not only by electing a Governor who ran on anti-tax rhetoric but also by voting down several tax-hike referendums -- even the ones specifying that new revenues go to pay for things like schools and roads. All of which makes Tuesday's House of Delegates vote for a \$750 million tax package a slap in the face of the electorate.

Besides, Virginia hardly finds itself in fiscal crisis. Revenue growth has been so healthy that the National Conference of State Legislatures predicts Virginia will run a small surplus this year. The budget, which is biennial, can grow by a full 11% without any tax increase at all.

But that's not enough for the politicians. Governor Mark Warner, a Democrat, has proposed a \$1 billion tax hike that would allow 13% to 15% in more spending. The Senate, which will now consider the House bill, originally proposed \$4 billion in new levies, though the leadership has since scaled that back to a mere \$2 billion. Mr. Warner surely appreciates the political cover that Republicans, who control the legislature, have given him. The Governor is limited to one term. Should he decide to take a run at Senator George Allen in 2006, he can pose as a fiscal conservative who thwarted GOP excesses on tax hikes.

Back in their home districts, however, where the GOP gained its legislative majorities on anti-tax platforms, pro-tax Republicans might wonder if this flight from principle will come back to haunt the party. After all, the base could decide that it doesn't want to keep people in office who don't keep their word. And who could blame them?

Accusing pro-tax Republicans of taking a "flight from principle," the Wall Street Journal today (see editorial below) said that "the (Republican) base could decide that it doesn't want to keep people in office who don't keep their word. And who could blame them?"

**Comment:** Check the list below and remember who to vote for and who to send home the next election cycle. *Editor.*

The 17 House Republican Delegates who voted with the Democrats to barely pass a massive tax increase this week should pay particular attention, especially if they vote for even higher tax increases next week. These House Republicans are Preston Bryant, Vince Callahan, Bill Carrico, Jim Dillard, William Fralin, Robert Hurt, Riley Ingram, Chris Jones, Dan Marshall, Harvey Morgan, Dave Nutter, Glen Oder, Harry Parrish, Gary Reese, Tom Rust,

Ed Scott, and **Bob Tata**.

Those Republican Senators who now are asking for even larger tax increases than those passed by the House should also pay attention. Those Senators include: John Chichester, Tommy Noment, Walter Stosch, William Wampler, Emmett Hanger, Russ Potts, **Ken Stolle**, and others.

**As Mark Twain once quipped, "A lie can travel halfway around the world while the truth is putting on its shoes."**

## Governor Plays Politics with Feticide, Civil Unions

Late last night(4/15<sup>th</sup>), just prior to his midnight deadline, Governor Mark Warner submitted his decisions on legislation that passed the General Assembly during the 2004 session. Two priority bills for The Family Foundation were among those bills that the Governor acted upon.

HB 1 ---- HB 1 is legislation that would recognize two distinct crimes when a pregnant woman and her unborn child are murdered. Referred to as "Conner's Law," this bill is very similar to the Unborn Victims of Violence Act recently signed into law by President Bush.

Instead of providing similar leadership, Governor Warner chose to play politics by adding an amendment to the bill that says, "Nothing in this section is intended nor shall be construed to limit a woman's rights as recognized by the Supreme Court of the United States in Roe v. Wade." The General Assembly members should vote their consciences and reject this purely symbolic amendment.

HB 751 ----- Introduced by Delegate Bob Marshall (R-13, Prince William), HB 751 declares that the Commonwealth of Virginia will not recognize a marriage, civil union, partnership contract or other arrangement purporting to bestow any of the privileges or obligations of marriage under the laws of another state or territory of the United States unless such marriage conforms to Virginia law. This legislation will prevent same sex civil unions from taking place or being recognized in Virginia.

The Governor amended the bill in a way that would legalize a civil union by simply calling them domestic partnerships or any other title one could give the relationship.

The General Assembly should wholly reject the Governor's recommendations.

By amending these bills, Governor Warner has placed his own political aspirations ahead of the people of Virginia... The General Assembly should reject the Governor's partisan actions and override his decisions.

The General Assembly will consider the Governor's actions next Wednesday, April 21, during "Veto Session." Look for Monday's alert to help you know best who needs to be called to ensure success during Wednesday's reconvened session.

*THE FAMILY FOUNDATION OF VIRGINIA Friday, April 16, 2004 Fr: Victoria Cob*

## STOP THE FTAA

The drive for a Free Trade Area of the Americas was launched publicly at the 1994 Summit of the Americas in Miami. Proponents heralded the FTAA as a bold move to "foster economic progress, enhance domestic prosperity, and raise living standards" throughout the Western hemisphere.

However, the real objective of the FTAA architects is so revolutionary that the proposal is shrouded in deception and misrepresentation. Even the term "free trade" in the name is a deception – a violation of truth in labeling.

A deeper examination shows that the real objective of the FTAA's internationalist sponsors is to consolidate power, not to expand prosperity. The FTAA is a raw grab for power disguised as a free trade agreement.

The FTAA would bring the nations of this hemisphere, most especially the U.S., under the heel of a new regional authority. That new authority would have none of the checks and balances of the American constitutional system. To accomplish the globalist goal of economic and *political* "integration," the independence and distinctive legal systems of participating nations would have to *disintegrate* step by step, as is happening in the European Union. Americans would lose control of their own destiny.

In part, that means Americans would lose control of their property, suffer taxation by anti-American socialist bureaucrats, and watch helplessly as standards of justice they had taken for granted, such as the Bill of Rights, are trampled. Meaningful national borders would also cease to exist.

The promises of greater prosperity are merely the bait for the internationalist FTAA trap. And it is rotten bait at that since the resulting socialist regulatory bureaucracy would continue the process that is destroying the American middle class. It would also undermine any opportunity for the peoples of Latin America to increase their standards of living. *URL: www.jbs.org*

## NAFTA

Three major issues are currently on the minds of most Americans. These are 1) jobs going overseas, 2) swelling numbers of immigrants, both legal and illegal, and 3) transferring to foreign organizations the power to dictate our nation's policies. All three of these concerns are traceable largely to the federal government's ill-advised action that placed our nation in NAFTA and the World Trade Organization, and then unconstitutionally transferred congressional power regarding trade policies (Trade Promotion Authority) to the White House. Congress approved these harmful measures after being

assured that each would promote "free trade." But, as their results show, there is nothing "free" about them. Instead, their harmful effects have become obvious.

*URL: www.jbs.org*

## SUMMARY

1. After ten years of NAFTA what have we gained? Tens of Thousands of high paying jobs have gone overseas. Hundreds of plants have moved to Mexico. That giant "sucking" sound that presidential candidate Ross Perot described has happened with a vengeance. We have seen NAFTA, do you like it?
2. Now that administration wants to take the US into the FTAA. The vote in the Senate is scheduled for January 2005. FTAA will give the US one vote the same as Haiti and San Salvador. We will lose our sovereignty, open our borders to unlimited entry, cheapen our economy and drastically lower our standard of living. It will eliminate our Bill of Rights, place us under the ICC and more. We do not want the FTAA.
3. The predicted next phase or step for the One World Government would be for an European Union type of government imposed on the Americans. We would forever lose our independence.

**STOP THE FTAA, REPEAL NAFTA, AND GET THE U.S. OUT OF THE U.N. NOW!** *Editor.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR NEXT TUESDAY NIGHT. COME ON OUT, GET INVOLVED.

Dr. Steve Bonta will speak Tuesday night April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004 on why the FTAA must be stopped. The talk will be at the Philippine Cultural Center, 4857 Baxter Road, VB. at 7:00 PM. Dr. Bonta is a nationally known speaker on Constitutional issues. Refreshments will be served and the talk is FREE. *Call Vernon Fix, 495-1541, for information.*

## THE ARMED CITIZEN

A Somerville, Massachusetts, resident had just stepped out of his shower when he heard unusual sounds at the back of his house. When a man broke through his back door, the homeowner retrieved a handgun, confronted the intruder, and shot him in the shoulder. The wounded burglar ran from the house, but police were able to track him by following a trail of blood to a nearby rail station. The suspect was treated at a local hospital for the gunshot wound, and police were expected to charge him with breaking and entering. (*Boston Herald*, Boston, MA, 01/23/04)

## UNITED WAY AGAIN ATTACKS SCOUTS

The effort to destroy the Boy Scouts of America is still happening with many United Ways across the fruited plain. The latest attack can be seen at the URL: [http://www.gopusa.com/commentary/hzeiger/2004/hz\\_0415.shtml](http://www.gopusa.com/commentary/hzeiger/2004/hz_0415.shtml) Our local UW isn't on the list but we should pressure them anyway. *Ed.*