

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

July 4, 2004

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

TODAY IS OUR COUNTRY'S BIRTHDAY - July 4, 1776

Two Hundred Twenty Eight years ago some very brave men penned a document, the Declaration of Independence, that will live forever in history. In the history of mankind it was a first. It is one of our two founding documents, the other is the Constitution. Of the nine Federally recognized holidays, three (in my opinion) are really important, Christmas, Easter and the Fourth of July. One is the birthday of our Savior Jesus, his resurrection and July 4th, the birthday of our beloved United States. We have such a great heritage, protect it. Ed.

**Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."
-Inscription on the Liberty Bell**

TELL YOUR SENATORS TO PROTECT MARRIAGE

During the week of July 12, the U.S. Senate will be voting on a Marriage Protection Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. Because a Constitutional Amendment requires a two-thirds affirmative vote, every Senator (Republican and Democrat alike) should be contacted to urge support for one-man and one-woman marriage.

President George W. Bush said in February of 2004, "An amendment to the Constitution is never to be undertaken lightly. The amendment process has addressed many serious matters of national concern. And the preservation of marriage rises to this level of national importance. The union of a man and woman is the most enduring human institution - honored and encouraged in all cultures and by every religious faith. Ages of experience have taught humanity that the commitment of a husband and wife to love and to serve one another promotes the welfare of children and the stability of society."

Marriage Threatened by Courts and Legislatures

The Defense of Marriage Act was adopted eight years ago by an overwhelming majority of both Houses of Congress and signed by President Clinton. According to DOMA, whenever the word "marriage" or "spouse" is used in federal law, "marriage means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife," and "spouse refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife. "

Now with Massachusetts providing gay marriage licenses, the assault on the DOMA has begun across the

country. A lawsuit claiming that the federal DOMA violates the U. S. Constitution was filed last month in federal district court in Miami, Florida and a similar case is pending in a federal district court in Nebraska.

State DOMAs have been adopted by 39 states, which also protects each state's right define marriage in their own state. This is a well-written law that is now under attack. While we should also try to reign in the judiciary, a Constitutional Amendment is ultimately necessary to protect marriage.

Take Action Now:

The attacks on the protection of marriage are escalating. Congress must act.

Call, write, or e-mail your U. S. Representative and Senators. Members will be home in their states and districts for the July 4recess, and reaching them through their district offices is especially important.

Other action items include attending a town hall meeting, submitting a Letter to the Editor to local newspapers, and encouraging family and friends to get involved.

The Senate will vote during the week of July 12.

Urge your Senators to support a Constitutional Amendment to protect marriage between one man and one woman.

Target List:

Sens. Akaka, Alexander, Allen, Baucus, Byah, Bennett, Biden, Bingaman, Bond, Boxer, Breaux, Bunning, Burns, Byrd, Campbell, Cantwell, Carper, Chafee, Chambliss, Clinton, Coleman, Collins, Conrad, Cornyn, Corzine, Craig, Crapo, Daschle, Dayton, DeWine, Dodd, Dole, Domenici, Dorgan, Durbin, Edwards, Ensign, Feingold, Feinstein, Bob Graham, Lindsey Graham, Grassley, Gregg, Hagel, Harkin, Hollings, Inouye, Jeffords, Johnson, Kennedy, Kerry, Kohl, Landrieu, Lautenberg, Leahy, Levin, Lieberman, Lincoln, Lugar, McCain, Mikulski, Murkowski, Murray, Ben Nelson, Bill Nelson, Nickles, Pryor, Reed, Reid, Roberts, Rockefeller, Sarbanes, Schumer, Smith, Snowe, Specter, Stabenow, Stevens, Stununu, Thomas, Voinovich, Warner, Wyden

From EAGLE FORUM, Further Reading about Marriage <http://www.eagleforum.org/topics/marriage/>

Comment: Note that both of our Virginia Senators are on the list. We need to build backbone in them with phone calls and letters. Only two more weeks. Ed.

Subsidize Promiscuity

Pro-family and pro-life critics are outraged by a U.S. Senate bill that they say will use over a billion taxpayer dollars to subsidize promiscuity, perpetuate immorality, and promote abortion. Senators John Kerry (D-MA), Hillary

Clinton (D-NY), Lincoln Chafee (R-RI), and seven other senators are sponsoring the Putting Prevention First Act (S.2336), a bill that was introduced on Planned Parenthood's 2004 Congressional Day of Action. But according to Ed Szymkowiak, national director of American Life League's STOPP International project, a more accurate name for the legislation would be the "Promoting Promiscuity Funding Act."

He says, "When one adds up all the taxpayer dollars involved, this bill seeks a whopping \$1.2 billion in federal funding." The spokesman for STOPP, which stands for "Stop Planned Parenthood," adds that the bill would more than double current yearly appropriations for the Public Health Services Act's Title X population control program; and from 2005 through 2009, it would pump \$50 million into promoting emergency contraception, a drug regimen that can cause abortion by preventing the implantation of a living human embryo. Szymkowiak also points out that during that same period, **the bill would appropriate \$500 million for "Planned Parenthood style" comprehensive sex education.** "This is a prescription for promiscuity, sexually transmitted disease, and abortion," he says. The STOPP International spokesman calls the Putting Prevention First Act a "sex-drenched omnibus bill" that steamrolls several bad ideas from pro-abortion entities like Planned Parenthood into "one big promiscuity-promoting nightmare." The companion House bill (H.R. 4192) has 112 sponsors.

From URL: <http://www.agapepress.org>

Comment: Boy this makes my blood boil, how about you? Please write or call Sens. Allen and Warner and Congressman Schrock and tell them to work and vote against S2336 and HR4192. Ed.

AOL Blocking FMA Petitions

(<http://headlines.agapepress.org/archive/6/302004h.asp>)

...The people behind NoGayMarriage.com says America Online(AOL) is blocking its members' ability to forward the activism site's petition opposing same-sex marriage. NoGayMarriage.com is in the process of gathering names on a petition in support of the Federal Marriage Amendment, or FMA, which would define marriage as being only between one man and one woman. The pro-family group is considering legal action against AOL for preventing its members' access to forwarding when the NoGayMarriage.com address is attached. When the activist group asked AOL why the pro-FMA site was being blocked, the Internet service provider refused to give a reason. American Family Association chairman Don Wildmon, whose group is sponsoring the NoGayMarriage.com site, says in light of that silence, "We can only conclude that AOL approves of the blocking, since it has refused to stop the censorship. They are apparently trying to silence everyone who disagrees with AOL's stance on homosexual marriage." Wildmon notes that NoGayMarriage.com is trying to secure two-million signatures prior to the Senate's taking up the FMA bill the second week in July. He says AOL has taken an active role

in trying to stop the public from participating in the effort.

Comment: Is it time to move from AOL to another provider? Be sure and let them know why you are moving. Why pay \$23/month, which is too much for dial-up, and in the process be helping Planned Parenthood and the abortion providers. Ed.

Some Phone numbers:

Senator Allen is 518-1674; 202-224-4024.

Senator Warner is 441-3079; 202-224-2023

Cong. Ed. Schrock, 497-6859; 202-225-4215

Cong. Randy Forbes 547-1000, 202-225-6365

INSIGHT

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops." --Henry Adams

"Right actions for the future are the best apologies for wrong ones in the past." --Tyron Edwards

"The smallest good deed is better than the grandest good intention." -- Duguet

"No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session." --Mark Twain

"Too many in the media act as if decency is a violation of the First Amendment." --Thomas Sowell

"If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it's free." --P.J.

O'Rourke

"I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts." --Will Rogers

KERRY RESUME FOR PRESIDENT

(Please forward this message to all voters. Visit Kerry-04.com for the full story on John Forbes Kerry. You may also view John Kerry's Resume in HTML format at <http://kerry-04.com/about/resume.php>.)

Comment: Presented as a service to the readers, this does not constitute an endorsement. It is interesting though. Ed.

ARMED CITIZEN

Butch Thomas dialed 9-1-1 when he looked outside and saw two strange men enter his mother's nearby house. Once he knew police were on the way, Thomas grabbed his shotgun and drove his own car into his mother's driveway to block the intruders' vehicle. Then he went in to confront the men. Thomas ordered the two at gunpoint into the back yard, where he made them lie down, and then tied their hands behind their backs. The duo was arrested and charged with burglary. Corporal Mike Parsons of the Jackson County Sheriff's Department commented, "It's rare when we get a call that a burglary is in progress and the suspects are still there when we arrive. To have them tied up and waiting... was really something." (*The Jackson Star New*, Jackson, TN, 01/22/04)

**HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE FOURTH,
YOU DESERVE IT. Ed.**