

FAMILY BULLETIN ALERT

Faith, Freedom & Citizenship Class

October 23, 2005

Kempsville Presbyterian Church

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

Support English Language!

Tell your Senator to vote YES on the Coburn Amendment!

This week Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK) will offer an amendment to the Transportation, Treasury, and HUD appropriation bill ([H.R.3058](#)) that will prohibit funding for enforcement of [Executive Order 13166](#) originally issued by President Clinton.

Former President Clinton's [Executive Order 13166](#) requires state and local government agencies and other recipients of federal funds, such as doctors who treat Medicare or Medicaid patients, to provide translation services on demand in any person's language of choice. Every recipient of federal funds must be prepared to pay for translation services, oral and written, in all 6,800 languages spoken around the world.

Friends and relatives are not permitted to help translate. Professionals must be hired, and the service must be provided for free for anyone who asks. Hospitals and universities are already facing harassment by federal agencies.

On April 24, 2001 the Supreme Court ruled in [Alexander v. Sandoval](#) that our civil rights laws do not require the government to use languages other than English. Clinton's Executive Order was based on the false argument that providing services only in English discriminates on the basis on "national origin." Despite the Supreme Court's rejection of that argument in the [Sandoval](#) case, the Bush administration has stated that the President has no plans to repeal this executive order.

The whole world is moving to the adoption of English as the global language of politics, commerce, and travel. So why are we allowing bureaucrats to undermine English usage in the United States?

Learning English is the first step in achieving the American Dream. It paves the way for success academically, professionally, and socially. We want all immigrants to learn English and become Americans! From the Eagle Forum.

Hate-Crimes Legislation Arrives at Senate

by Pete Winn, associate editor, CITIZEN

SUMMARY: Bill would give legal protection to sexual orientation.

A bad "hate-crimes" bill has arrived at the doorstep of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Sponsored by Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., the bill would extend existing hate-crimes laws -- laws that already call for enhanced punishment for crimes motivated by race, color, national origin and religion -- to include crimes based on "actual or perceived gender," "sexual orientation," disability and something called "gender identity."

The hate-crimes legislation, which was approved by the House in September on a vote of 223-199, is attached as an amendment to an otherwise good bill -- the Children's Safety Act.

That act, which is intended to protect children against violent and sexual crimes and create a sex-offender registry, is worthwhile, according to Bob Knight, director of the Culture and Family Institute.

However, the hate-crimes amendment is offensive.

"The bill would expand federal power greatly over criminal

law, at the local level," he said. "Right now, the federal government can only intervene in cases it considers hate crimes if they involve a federalized criminal activity -- such as interfering with someone in the act of voting. This would open it up wide."

Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., a member of the Judiciary Committee, said the amendment makes him very nervous.

"I do not believe it is good, nor do I believe it necessary, for us to pass hate-crimes legislation -- which is thought legislation," he said. "We should punish the crime. We shouldn't try to ascertain the thought going on at the time of the crime."

The whole area of hate crimes is fraught with all kinds of problems, according to Brownback, who was an attorney prior to joining the Senate.

"There's been great concern -- and I think legitimate concern -- that hate-crimes legislation will be used against legitimate speech in some places; where people speak out of their beliefs and could then be charged with a hate crime."

Brownback said this particular bill doesn't provide for persecution of Christians who are critical of homosexuality -- but it may open the door to it at some point.

"We've seen similar hate-crimes laws in Canada and Sweden

Sen. Warner, 441-3079 and Senator Allen at 518-1674. Congresswoman Drake – 497-6859.
Cong. Randy Forbes 382-0080. Cong. Robert "Bobby" Scott - 380-1000

evolve into instruments against people in public life who criticize homosexuality," Knight said. "Pastors are afraid to talk about it in Canada now, and one was arrested in Sweden under hate-crimes law. We'd hate to see that happen in the United States. This law wouldn't do it immediately, but it lays the foundation for that kind of system."

Amanda Banks, federal issues analyst for Focus on the Family Action, said hate-crimes legislation is totally unnecessary.

"Hate crimes are a very small percentage of crimes committed, and in fact, they are decreasing. To say that we need more legislation to protect people from hate crimes is absurd. There is no proof for that."

Banks said even though the legislation is opposed by several senators besides Brownback, it is important for people to contact members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and let them know what they think.

TAKE ACTION: Please take time to contact the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee and let them know that hate-crimes legislation is unneeded, unfair, and could open the door to eventual persecution.

George Washington is losing his place on the dollar bill

-- to the star of the ABC TV series "Commander in Chief."

Stickers of Geena Davis, who stars as the first female president of the United States in the Tuesday night show, are being plastered over Washington's face as part of a promotional gimmick, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Some TV critics have suggested that "Commander in Chief" is an attempt to get Americans accustomed to the idea of a female president -- should Hillary Clinton decide to seek the Oval Office in 2008.

Comment: God forbid! Ed.

Middle Class Continues to Amass Debt

from CITIZEN staff reports

SUMMARY: Financial experts point to high interest rates and lack of personal responsibility.

A survey conducted in conjunction with the Center for Responsible Lending indicates that low to middle income families have tripled their credit card debt to \$800 billion since 1989; and \$333 billion of home equity was cashed out between 2001 and 2003, often to pay credit-card bills.

The average U.S. household now has \$8,600 of credit card debt. A third of households used a credit card to cover living expenses for at least four of the past 12 months.

With new bankruptcy laws to be enacted next week, the pressure on families to be fiscally responsible continues to grow, but also growing is their credit card debt. Tamara Draut, director of the Economic Opportunity Program at the think tank Demos, recently authored a study called "The Plastic Safety Net."

"We asked people about how long they thought it would take to get out of debt and the average that they thought was a little over two years on top of the three and a half they have already been in," she said. "This debt is not going anywhere very quickly."

"This year, credit card companies will collect \$16 billion dollars in penalty fees alone," he said. "This penalty pricing trap must be dismantled."

Credit card companies are an easy target, but Howard Dayton, chief executive officer of Crown Financial Ministries, said nothing defeats high interest rates and penalties like personal responsibility.

"The first thing that everybody should do is learn God's way of handling money, because if you're motivated by what scripture says then you are more likely to be faithful in handing your resources," he said. "I'd take out some scissors and perform 'plastic surgery,' if I was unable to control my credit card spending."

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Many people are losing the financial war against debt. By using 10 specific smart living principles, learn how to become a savvy and creative consumer with "Debt-Proof Your Marriage" by Mary Hunt.

<http://www.family.org/resources/itempg.cfm?itemid=5040&refcd=CE05JCZL&tvar=no>

MAJOR VICTORY FOR FIREARM OWNERS AND FREEDOM IN LOUISIANA

On September 22, NRA filed a motion in United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana seeking a temporary restraining order to block authorities from confiscating law-abiding citizens' firearms in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. We are happy to report that on September 23, the Court sided with NRA and issued a restraining order to bar further gun confiscations from peaceable, law-abiding victims of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans.

Federal Judge Jay Zainey granted NRA's motion for an indefinite temporary restraining order and ordered those in power to cease and desist gun seizures. The authorities were also ordered to return guns seized by them or their agents to anyone "...who lawfully possessed them, upon presentation of identification and execution of a receipt therefore."

Commenting on the ruling, NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre said, "This is a significant victory for freedom and for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The court's ruling is instant relief for the victims who now have an effective means of defending themselves from the robbers and rapists that seek to further exploit the remnants of their shattered lives."

The controversy erupted when *The New York Times* reported that the New Orleans superintendent of police directed that no civilians in New Orleans will be allowed to have guns and that "only law enforcement are allowed to have weapons." From Freedom's Voice, NRA-ILA.

THE ARMED CITIZEN

A female employee at the Tobacco Rack was in the back of the store when she heard someone enter about 7:15 a.m. The woman looked toward the entrance and saw a man holding a shotgun, pointing it down toward the floor, and possibly loading it. The employee drew a revolver and demanded the intruder leave the store. The gunman pulled his jacket hood down to cover his face, saying, "I'm going, I'm going," and left the premises. Police were looking for the suspect, who was wearing a baby blue, hooded jacket. (*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, Little Rock, AR, 05/15/04)

***“GET US OUT OF THE UNITED
NATIONS”***