



CONCERNED CITIZEN

January 2006

A publication of Concerned Women for America of California

CWA is the nation's largest public policy women's organization

Web site - <http://casd.cwfa.org>

AROUND THE STATE

They're Baaaaack!

Circle the wagons! Hide the women and children! On January 4, the California legislature reconvenes.

Kidding aside, this will be a busy session and one that will require prayer and action, with a number of bills that did not complete the committee process are already scheduled for hearings beginning January 10. You can share your support or opposition with committees and legislators throughout the process. Just check the "[Targeted Bills 2006](#)" list on our Web site. The list will be regularly updated with new bills, talking points and sample letters to allow you to make your voice heard quickly and easily.

If you are not receiving our newsletter and alerts via e-mail, please send a "subscribe" message to sd.legislation@california.cwfa.org. We'll help you stay up-to-date on California bills as they move through the legislative process. Our action alerts will begin soon, so don't delay.

Campaign Bill Returns

Proving once again that they just can't take "no" for an answer, Assemblyman Leland Yee (D-San Francisco) has re-introduced his campaign pledge bill that was vetoed by the governor last year. AB 1207 changes the candidate campaign pledge prohibiting negative statements based on race, sex, etc. to include sexual orientation or gender identity. This effectively limits free speech for candidates concerning such areas as same-sex "marriage" and related topics.

Action: *AB 1207 will be heard in the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee on January 10. Please fax your opposition letter to the committee at (916) 319-2194. Our Web site's 2006 bill list includes [talking points](#) and a [sample letter](#). You may also write or call the individual committee members listed on the [committee site](#).*

Governor Taps Davis Dem for Chief of Staff

California's Gov. Schwarzenegger followed the defeat of his initiatives in the recent special election (and other measures that went along for the ill-fated ride) with a stunning lurch to the left when he appointed Susan Kennedy as his chief of staff. Kennedy, who "married" her lesbian partner on a trip to Hawaii, was deputy chief of staff for former-Gov. Gray Davis, held other posts in his

administration, and served as his appointee. She has also worked for Sen. Dianne Feinstein and served as executive director for both the California Democratic Party and the California Abortion Rights Action League.

The governor's move deserves careful and ongoing scrutiny. In her new position, Kennedy will help guide his agenda. *Capitol Weekly News* writer John Howard said, "The chief of staff's position is considered the most powerful administrative position in state government, with broad authority over policy-making and the sprawling bureaucracy."

Pray for the governor to seek wise counsel in all areas. Ask that he would be surrounded with other staff that will uphold Biblical values.

Marriage Initiative Will Have to Try Again

We are sorry to report to you that the Protect Marriage petitions fell short of what was needed to qualify for the ballot in this attempt. Approximately 400,000 signatures were obtained in an all-volunteer

effort – an excellent number, but short of the 600,000 valid signatures required.

Several factors contributed to this outcome, including the diversion of funds to the parental notification initiative (Prop 73) and hurricane relief efforts. History has shown that substantial funds for paid signature gathering help ensure adequate numbers for qualification. Given that this was an all-volunteer drive, we did VERY well, which is a good indication of success in the next coalition initiative effort. Thank you for your hard work in gathering signatures.

THE NATIONAL SCENE

Several Victories Scored on the Federal Front

Congress dealt with some crucial issues at the end of 2005 and there is good news to report. Amid the war on the mention of "Christmas" in the public square, the House passed a non-binding resolution sponsored by JoAnn Davis (R-Virginia) protecting the symbols and traditions of Christmas and strongly disapproving of efforts to ban references to Christmas. Unfortunately, in the 401-22 vote California had the dubious honor of supplying one-third of the Scrooges (Reps. Lois Capps, Jane Harman, Mike Honda, Barbara Lee, George Miller, Pete Stark and Lynn Woolsey).

Our Founders' Wisdom

The great pillars of all government and of social life [are] virtue, morality, and religion. This is the armor, my friend, and this alone, that renders us invincible.

~ Patrick Henry

In an outstanding victory, the Bone Marrow and Cord Blood Therapy and Research Act passed the Senate by unanimous consent. This bill is greatly needed to improve and streamline access to cord blood stem-cell therapies and transplants. The measure had been held up for months in the Senate for purely political reasons and was finally released after a grassroots outcry. Your voice made a difference!

The Healthy Marriage Initiative passed the Senate as part of the Omnibus Deficit Reduction bill. Lanier Swann, director of government relations for Concerned Women for America said, "The healthy-marriage initiative will provide financial resources for educational and skill-based programs that will teach couples to make their marriages work. Children who come from single-parent homes experience more poverty, emotional and behavioral problems than those who come from households with two parents." The omnibus measure will fund up to \$100 million in the effort to strengthen marriages and families.

Senate Protects Trafficking Victims

CWA praised the Senate for overwhelmingly passing Rep. Chris Smith's (R-New Jersey) Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 on December 29. This legislation is crucial in combating sex trafficking, a modern day slavery which devastates hundreds of thousands of men, women and children each year.

"We are taking the lead in combating this atrocity that strips hope away from so many people. Women especially are being sold into domestic and international human slavery, said Dr. Janice Crouse, CWA's Senior Fellow of the Beverly LaHaye Institute. "This devaluing of human life must be stopped, and Rep. Smith's legislation is an enormous step in the right direction."

NEWS DESK

Court Issues Refreshing Ruling

In December, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a lower court ruling that allowed the inclusion of the Ten Commandments in a display of historical documents at the Mercer County, Kentucky courthouse. The Magna Carta, the national motto, the Declaration of Independence, and other items or documents from U.S. history are also featured in the display established in 2001. The ACLU asserted that including the Ten Commandments violated the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Judge Richard Suhrheinrich, who wrote the opinion for the three-judge panel, referred to the ACLU's constant appeal to the separation of church and state as "tiresome" and noted, "The First Amendment does not demand a wall of separation between church and state." He further stated that the ACLU "does not embody the reasonable person." You can say that again!

January 22 Is Sanctity of Life Sunday

Churches and pro-life organizations across the nation will mark Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on January 22. Consider working with a local pregnancy resource center to collect donations of money, baby or maternity items, and raise awareness of the wonderful work these groups are doing in saving the lives of unborn children.

Encourage your church to include an insert in its worship folder highlighting God's value for human life and the need to speak out against abortion, while offering compassion and forgiveness to women – and men – affected by an abortion decision. For example, Frontlines Publishing has brochures to order via their [Web site](#) or by phone at (616) 248-4300.

New Desk Quick Takes

❖ Michael Newdow is at it again. This time the atheist, who is an ordained "minister" in the First Amendmist Church of True Science, wants to remove the Phrase "In God We Trust" from U.S. currency. He claims his congregants do not believe in God and "are offended by any suggestion to the contrary." His "church" has not accepted donations because of the motto engraved on the money. Apparently they are behind budget.

❖ Two studies conducted by University of California Berkeley and Stanford University recently showed that, for all the benefits of preschool touted by those seeking to make universal preschool available in California at taxpayers expense, there is an emotional cost. The reports showed that while there were cognitive benefits to preschool, children who attended more than 15 hours per week showed negative effects in both social and emotional development as compared to children who stayed at home. Preschoolers showed "diminished levels of cooperation, sharing, motivated engagement in classroom tasks, and greater aggression."

❖ Rating high on the "yuck factor" scale, researchers at the Salk Institute in San Diego have created human-mice chimeras by injecting human embryonic stem cells into the brain of developing mice. The Institute apparently had no ethical concerns about their experiment; however, their press release did indicate that, according to National Academy of Science guidelines, the adult mice were not allowed to breed. Comforting.

PRAYER POWER

There will be much to do this year. Let's start out right – on our knees – asking God to give us wisdom and the courage to speak boldly and persuasively to our elected officials on behalf of Biblical values. *Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints ... for which I am an ambassador in chains, that in it I may speak boldly as I ought to speak. Eph. 6: 18, 20*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please note: When sending e-mails, always reference the action you wish the recipient to take in the subject line (ex. "Veto AB 123"). Even if the e-mail is not opened, your message has been seen!

You may also use the Citizen Action Program on our Web site. Visit www.cwfa.org; click on "[Legislation](#)," and quickly share your views with your senators and representative on many key federal bills.

Federal Officials

President George Bush (202) 456-1414, (202) 456-1111, Fax: (202) 456-2461, E-mail: President@whitehouse.gov

CA Senators: Call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 225-3121 or toll free at (877) 762-8762

Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D) (310) 914-7300, (619) 231-9712, Fax: (202) 228-3954, E-mail: Senator@feinstein.senate.gov

Sen. Barbara Boxer (D) (213) 894-5000, (619) 239-3884, Fax: (619) 239-5719, E-mail by visiting: www.boxer.senate.gov/contact

House of Representatives: Call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 225-3121 or toll free at (877) 762-8762. E-mail your representative by visiting: www.house.gov/writerep

California State Officials

To stay on top of the state news, subscribe to our alerts at sd.legislation@california.cwfa.org.

CA Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) Sacramento: (916) 445-2841 (Dial "0" to reach staff.), Fax: (916) 445-4633; San Diego Office: (619) 525-4641, Fax: (619) 525-4640; E-mail: governor@governor.ca.gov or at www.govmail.ca.gov Additional fax numbers: Sacramento (916) 445-4633, Los Angeles (213) 897-0319, San Francisco (415) 703-2803, San Diego (619) 525-4640, Fresno (559) 445-5328, Riverside (909) 680-6863

To locate and contact your California state senator or assembly member:

Check your phone book or call (916) 319-2800

Or visit <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html> to locate your officials by zip code.

Contact Us!

To subscribe to this publication, send a request to the editor and Director of Legislation Penny Harrington; sd.legislation@california.cwfa.org. For more information on becoming involved with CWA, please contact our Area Director Cindy Moles; (760) 929-0352 or sd.director@california.cwfa.org, if you live within San Diego, Riverside or Imperial County. If you live outside these areas, please contact our Field Development Coordinator Kenda Bartlett; (800) 964-2203 or inquiries@cwfa.org. Whatever the issue, you can have an impact in your community. CWA of California – San Diego/Riverside/Imperial Counties Web site: <http://casd.cwfa.org>

All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing. ~ Edmund Burke

If you are concerned about the future of the American family, you can make a difference by becoming involved with Concerned Women for America in your state and community.

JOIN US TODAY!

Enclosed is my contribution (minimum \$25, please) for the work of Concerned Women for America in my state. This membership includes an annual subscription to the *Family Voice* newsletter. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please complete and return to: CWA, P.O. Box 131401, Carlsbad, CA 92013.