



Dear CWA Friends,

The 2009 Legislative Session is completed except for Veto Day on March 30. Thank you for your patience in receiving all the e-mail alerts and for your prayers and grassroots action. We are grateful for the success that God has given us this year.

Except for one bill that we promoted, we were on the defense this year working to defeat bad bills. Following is a list of the bills with which Concerned Women for America was involved. [Click here](#) and type the bill number in the box. This will take you to the page where you may view the language and history of the bill, and the votes. By clicking on the “bird” symbol you can listen to the testimony and debates.

**SB25** An act to *revise certain provisions regarding what constitutes an unauthorized insurer and engaging in unauthorized insurance*. SB25 was a religious freedom issue that would have given state government the authority to regulate a Christian medical ministry. CWA wanted a No vote. The bill failed in Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

**SB134** An act to *provide health insurance coverage for contraceptive drugs and devices*. SB134 failed in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. CWA opposed SB134.

**SB191** An act to *establish eligibility criteria, community planning processes, and quality benchmarks for state-supported prekindergarten programs*. SB191 was the “community organizer” bill which CWA opposed. SB191 passed in the Senate, but failed in the House Education Committee.

**SB195** An act to *repeal the ban on certain medical research and to provide certain limitations for human embryonic stem cell research*. SB195 passed in the Senate Judiciary Committee, but failed in the full Senate. CWA opposed SB195.

**SB156** An act to *revise the scope of certain provisions related to hate crimes*. SB156 would have added “sexual orientation” to our hate crimes laws. SB156 passed in the Senate Judiciary Committee, but failed in the full Senate.

**HB1279** An act to *require each school district to develop a policy to prohibit bullying and harassment that meets certain requirements*. HB1279 contained “sexual orientation” in its definitions. CWA opposed HB1279. The bill failed in the House Education Committee.

**HB1156** To *provide for the establishment of a task force to study human trafficking*. HB1156 passed in the House Judiciary Committee, but failed in the full House. CWA supported HB1156. The legislature authorizes a certain number of task forces (summer studies) each year. There is

still a possibility that the Executive Board will approve a task force to study human trafficking. We are lobbying the Board to do so.

**HB1138** *To provide for the defeasance of the Commission on the Status of Women.* This antiquated and inactive commission promoted the Equal Rights Amendment which advanced abortion. CWA supported the defeasance of this commission, thus supporting HB1138. The bill passed the Legislature and was signed by the Governor.

God bless you for your faithfulness in prayer and action.

Linda Schauer  
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Concerned Women for America of South Dakota