



Concerned Women for America of Maine NEWS REPORT

Committed to giving you a voice at the State Capitol

July 2017

A Word from Our State Director *Making a Difference Because of You!*

By the time you receive this newsletter, the Maine 2017 legislative session will have likely ended. As of this writing, on June 23, they are in session still working on the budget. As you may know, liberals want a huge tax increase. Conservative leaders are fighting hard not to pass it. The governor promises to veto it if it goes over \$7 billion, even if it means keeping lawmakers in Augusta into July. While the tax bill and budget are not included in our core issues, the process of passing the tax bill is taking a lot of the legislators' time away from issues we find just as important.



Because of your support, CWA of Maine has been a strong presence at the state capitol this legislative session. We have accomplished much, but only because of your help. We participated in pro-life coalition meetings, testified on behalf of legislation, sent out e-alerts, met with legislators and their staff, participated in the prayer caucus in the capitol once a week, kept our members up to date on legislation through our monthly newsletter, and much more.

We took a stand on 15 pieces of legislation this year. This is the most we have ever done! Legislation on parental rights, national sovereignty, sharia law, female genital mutilation, immigration, education, sex-trafficking, and marijuana legalization are just a few issues we covered. While the outcome on most of our legislation wasn't as we desired, **we are very thankful to God for our victory against physician-assisted suicide for the fifth time in the Maine Legislature. In the last session, we only succeeded by ONE vote, but this year we won in the House of Representatives by 24 votes!**

Though the legislative session is over, there will still be legislative matters that CWA of Maine will be tracking this summer. The select committee on marijuana legalization will be meeting throughout the summer at the capitol to implement the law passed by referendum last November. Additionally, there is "Marsy's Law", L.D. #1168. It deals with a constitutional amendment allowing for victims' rights resulting from a crime. This will be deliberated during the summer. I will be present; I will listen, and I will testify as needed on both of these matters. We will keep you informed as the process progresses.

Thank you to all of you who have been reading our e-alerts and newsletters, praying, taking action as requested, and financially contributing. Without you doing what you do and making your voices heard, we could not do what we do successfully. To God be the glory for the great things He has done!

Concerned Women for
America of Maine

State Director:
Penny Morrell

864 Manchester Road
Belgrade, ME 04917

me.cwfa.org

director@maine.cwfa.org
207-465-6015



Legislative Session Concluded

[L.D. #96](#), “An Act to Improve Attendance at Public Elementary Schools.” Sponsor: Sen. Nathan Libby (D-Lewiston). The bill would require children to start school at five years of age if their parents enroll them instead of at age seven. Click [here](#) to read the testimony. *Status*: The bill was passed as amended. Although CWA of Maine opposed L.D. #96, with the amendment, we are satisfied with the final bill. **The bill was then vetoed by the Governor, and the veto was sustained, thus the bill failed.**

[L.D. #366](#), “An Act to Ensure Compliance with Federal Immigration Law by State and Local Government Entities.” Sponsor: Rep. Lawrence Lockman (R-Amherst). This bill establishes prohibitions concerning restricting the sharing and use of immigration and citizenship information. It prohibits restricting the enforcement of federal immigration law. It authorizes law enforcement agencies to transport aliens who are unlawfully present in the United States to a federal facility. It establishes a complaint process, a private right of action and a duty to report. Click [here](#) to read testimony. *Status*: **We are sad to say that the bill failed in both houses of the Legislature.**

[L.D. #1416](#), “An Act to Amend High School Diploma Standards.” Sponsored by Rep. Heidi Sampson (R-Alfred.) This bill amends the requirements for a high school diploma and adds new subjects to those requirements. Click [here](#) to read testimony. *Status*: **We are sorry to report that the bill failed in both houses of the Legislature.**

[L.D. #327](#), “An Act to Allow a Wrongful Death Cause of Action for the Death of a Viable Fetus.” Sponsor: Rep. Eleanor Espling (R-New Gloucester). This bill provides for a cause of action for the wrongful death of an unborn viable fetus that has reached 24 or more weeks of gestation. *Status*: **We are sad to say the bill failed in the House by one vote after successfully passing in the Senate, and then failed again in the House. The bill is not dead, but very close, in that it is still in the works but the Speaker of the House may not even bring it to another vote before the close of the session.**

[L.D. #745](#), “An Act to Prohibit Female Genital Mutilation.” Sponsor: Rep. Heather Sirocki (R-Scarborough). This bill makes it a Class B crime to perform female genital mutilation on a female person under 18 years of age for nonmedical purposes. *Status*: **We are sorry to say that the bill failed in both houses of the Legislature.**

How Important is it that We Pray and Encourage Our Legislators? *CWA of Maine 2018 Encourage-A-Legislator Program Needs a New Leader*

During the 2017 Legislative Session, CWA of Maine Encourage-A-Legislator (EAL) program had over 175 volunteers covering 186 legislators with encouraging words and prayers. Throughout the session, which took place from mid-January through mid-June, these wonderful volunteers prayed for their assigned legislator daily and sent an encouraging postcard once a month. Through the years, this program has always been our pride and joy. It is of utmost importance that we urge our legislators, through our e-mails and calls, to vote for pro-family legislation. However, we know that we are first and foremost called to pray for them and show them the love of Jesus, regardless of the decisions they make. I receive positive feedback and gratitude from the legislators often.

Janet Pinkham has led our EAL program for over seven years, and we cannot be more appreciative! This year she will be moving to Florida and, therefore, will no longer be leading this program.

Might you be interested in administering this program? Please prayerfully consider it. Contact us if you are at all interested!

“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people for kings and all those in authority that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” (1 Timothy 1:1-2)

To read a bill, view current status and more, click on the blue bill number.

The next CWA of Maine Newsletter will be October 15, 2017

Thank you for responding to requests to contact your legislators. To find out what is happening at the State Capitol during the summer, look for e-alerts from CWA of Maine to stay informed, prayerful and active.

When Asked, "Who is CWA?"

Response: "Concerned Women for America (CWA) is the nation's largest public policy women's organization with a rich history of over 35 years of helping our members across the country bring Biblical principles into all levels of public policy. There's a cultural battle raging across this country and CWA is on the frontline protecting those values through prayer and action."



Prayer is the First Step to Reach the Lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Please pray for:

- ◆ President Donald J. Trump
- ◆ Vice President Mike Pence
- ◆ For our national and local lawmakers
- ◆ Our courts
- ◆ CWA of Maine leaders and volunteers
- ◆ Fatherless children and teens
- ◆ Vacation Bible Schools this summer

Would You or Someone You Know Like to Run for Elected Office?

Local and state elected officials have far-reaching influence on American life. They are the individuals who set the standards for our public institutions and make the laws that our courts enforce. CWA of Maine knows the importance of having righteous men and women with Christian values run for public office. Now is the time to prepare for the 2018 elections. We will be praying that the Lord will lead many of you to commit to standing in the gap in our local community and in our great state.

Scripture of the Month

"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men."
(Matthew 5:13)

Receive a FREE Book When You Become a Member for the First Time or Renew Your Membership!

From now until the end of October, all those who contribute \$25 or more to become a member of CWA of Maine will receive CWA's CEO and President Penny Nance's book *Feisty & Feminine* for FREE.

Encourage your friends and family to become members of CWA of Maine today! Or, sign a friend up to be a member, and we will send them a book.

If you are already a member, this offer still applies! Contribute \$25 or more, and we will send you the book for free!

Don't miss out! Send a check to CWA of Maine, 864 Manchester Road, Belgrade, ME 04917. Make the check out to "Concerned Women for America" or "CWA" and be sure to put "CWA of Maine" on the memo line. Be sure to include a note indicating that you are participating in the membership drive. Or, you can donate online. Please email us at director@maine.cwfa.org and let us know that you have participated online in the *Feisty & Feminine* Membership Drive.

"Today's conservative women are intelligent, well-educated, compassionate, accomplished, funny, and fearless," says Nance. *Feisty & Feminine* takes an honest and transparent look at what it means to be a conservative Christian woman with thoughtful commentary on the real issues confronting you right now.

