



December 2017

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on this Christmas season, we are grateful that so many like-minded people join with us in **celebrating the birth of the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ our Savior!**

Matthew 1:20-21 tells us, “Joseph, Son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

Thank you for joining with CWA of South Dakota in our efforts. Throughout the year, we at CWA have been reminded of your faithfulness to defend America's Judeo-Christian heritage and Biblical values in public policy. Thank you for your commitment to pray, your voice for truth, and your generosity in resources! Because of you, we have impacted our great state and nation by your service to God, family, and country. Be as encouraged as we are!

#### **Some of YOUR CWA of South Dakota 2017 activities and accomplishments:**

- ♦ Prayerfully covered all 105 state legislators in our “Encourage-A-Legislator Campaign.”
- ♦ Lobbied full-time and testified as volunteers during the state’s legislative session at the South Dakota Capitol.
- ♦ Lobbied our South Dakota Senators and Representative in Washington, D.C.
- ♦ Alerted members to state and national legislation via email, letters to the editor, opinion editorials, and newsletters.
- ♦ Networked with like-minded individuals and groups on legislation and ballot measures.
- ♦ Recruited new members by exhibiting CWA materials at various state events.
- ♦ Continued and started Prayer/Action Chapters and Home Teams.
- ♦ Drafted and mailed a letter to state legislators regarding legislation to rescind an application to Congress for South Dakota to participate in a Constitutional Convention.

#### **Examples of CWA of South Dakota victories on SPECIFIC LEGISLATION:**

- ♦ Assisted at the state level in shepherding **S.B. 149, the Adoption Agency Protection Act**, through the legislature to protect faith-based adoption agencies

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**Concerned Women for America of South Dakota**

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in South Dakota from having to close their doors, rather than violate their stated beliefs and mission. This bill ensures that all adoption agencies, as they have been doing for decades, can continue providing services to families and children.

- Testified for **H.B. 1101**, an update to the **South Dakota Pain Capable Abortion Ban**, which strengthened the penalty from a misdemeanor to a Class 6 felony.
- Provided impetus and language to amend **S.B. 102, an abortion informed consent/human trafficking bill**, which assists victims in receiving help or rescue from a sex-trafficking or coercion situation.
- Testified against two **Early Learning bills, S.B. 155 and S.B. 156**, which would have cost our state a lot of money and continued to encourage both parents to pursue the outside-of-the-home workforce and away from their children.
- Joined forces with other conservatives in supporting **H.B. 1069, the I.M. 22 Repeal**, which had been placed on our ballot in 2016 by out-of-state “big money” interests.

We immensely appreciate YOUR participation and support of CWA of South Dakota. Together, we will make 2018 a great pro-family year through continued prayer, education, and action!

As this year concludes, please consider giving a generous gift to CWA of South Dakota. YOUR gift will give us a strong foundation to stand on as we enter 2018. When you renew your commitment, please write your check out to “Concerned Women for America” and put “CWA of SD” on the memo line. Mail it to Concerned Women for America, P.O. Box 343, Leola, SD 57456. Or, [click here](#) to contribute online.

Finally, please remember CWA of South Dakota in your prayers. Your prayers for courage, wisdom, and faithfulness are so needed for us to effectively represent our shared values.

May you and your family have a joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year!

Blessings in Christ, the Prince of Peace,

Linda Schauer  
State Director