



CONCERNED WOMEN for AMERICA OF SOUTH DAKOTA

SPRING 2022 ISSUE

Pro-Life Voices Heard at the Supreme Court

"For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb." --Psalm 139:13

Concerned Women for America (CWA) of South Dakota, along with nearly 2000 members nationwide, represented CWA extremely well at the Supreme Court of the United States prayer rally on December 1 for oral arguments of the pro-life case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. Several busloads of eager participants traveled from Pennsylvania and around Virginia, and over 100 flew or drove.

Joining me at the Supreme Court were Lisa Gennaro (CWA of South Dakota Legislative Liaison), my daughter-in-law, and four of my granddaughters. We were honored to be present at this historic event to pray and hear from over 30 great pro-life organizations and legislators, including CWA's CEO and President Penny Nance, Abby Johnson, Rep. Cathy McMorris-Rogers (R-Washington), Rep. Vicky Hartzler (R-Missouri), Rep. Steve Scalise (R-Louisiana), Sen. James Lankford (R-Oklahoma), and many more!

There were thousands attending the rally, and it is estimated that more than two-thirds of those present were pro-life, with most being young people. It was a joy and honor to pray together!

It has been my commitment as a mother and grandmother to instill in my children and grandchildren that we are created in the image of God and that life must be protected. It was a blessing to bring my family to Washington, D.C., and be a part of history-in-the-making. Hopefully and prayerfully, they will see the stain of abortion relegated to the dust bin of history. Two of my granddaughters reflected on that important day:

"Standing on the steps of the Supreme Court, I realized how real the fight for life is and how we are all called to be an advocate for the unborn."

--Karina Schauer

"Attending the rally was a life-changing experience. It was so refreshing to see that our country is not as divided as the media portrays."

--Rebekah Schauer

What's next for *Dobbs vs. Jackson*? Read CWA's analysis of the case on our *Dobbs* page [here](#).

Please Pray: While we await the Court's decision, please pray that the Justices will rule in favor of life. It's time that we finally correct our egregious mistakes and end the greatest human rights violation in America. If the Court's ruling is favorable, then the federal scourge of abortion will end, and the battle for life will fall back to the state legislatures where it belongs. And we at CWA of South Dakota are ready to engage fully!

Linda Schauer
State Director



Powerful moment when Penny led crowd in prayer for *Dobbs* case while oral arguments were going on inside the court.

CWA of South Dakota in Action! Legislative Session 2022

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

-Galatians 6:9

The 38-day 2022 South Dakota legislative session started January 11 and ended on Veto Day, March 28. Your CWA of South Dakota leaders represented your interests throughout the session with a focus on pro-family issues. Each bill considered was aligned with one of [CWA's core issues](#): the sanctity of life, education, religious liberty, sexual exploitation, family, national sovereignty, and support for Israel.

All bills, actions, and legislator information can be accessed at [sdlegislature.gov](#). If you have any questions, feel free to phone Linda at (605) 380-6914.

HB1318, sponsored by the Committee on [State Affairs](#) at the request of the Office of the Governor. HB1318 put restrictions on tele med abortions. With COVID came telemedicine and chemical abortion (RU-486) prescribed over the phone. In December, the federal government allowed abortion drugs permanently available by mail.

HB1318 passed in the House with a vote of [62-8](#) and [32-2](#) in the Senate and was signed by the Governor. The bill will require the abortifacient drugs to be prescribed by a licensed physician in a licensed abortion facility. The mother must be checked for ectopic pregnancy and Rh-blood factor. Both medications must be taken at the facility under the care of the facility's staff. She must be given all the informed consent as required by a surgical abortion and return after two weeks for a follow-up checkup.



Representing CWA of South Dakota at Gov. Kristi Noem's bill signing of HB1318 was Legislative Liaison Lisa Gennaro.

HB1113, sponsored by Rep. Tony Randolph (R-District 35) and Sen. Jessica Castleberry (R-District 35). HB1113 updates our [forced abortion statute](#), making it a Class B felony (up to five years prison and a \$10,000 fine) to threaten with the intent to coerce a pregnant woman to have an abortion against her will when the baby is aborted or not aborted. This law will protect the pregnant woman from severe abuse and incidents involving sex trafficking. HB1113 passed unanimously in both chambers and was signed by the Governor.

HB1133, sponsored by Rep. Jess Olson (R-District 34) and Sen. Marsha Symens (R-District 25), provides that the cost of a home study required for an adoption will be the responsibility of the Department of Social Services. HB1133 is a great step to help with home study expenses in the adoption process. It gives mothers the encouragement to consider placing their baby in the arms of a loving family rather than abortion. HB1133 passed unanimously in both chambers and was signed by the Governor.

SB137, sponsored by Sen. Brock Greenfield (R-District 2), was a bill CWA of South Dakota opposed because it would establish commercial surrogacy regulated by a contract. Contracts are for transferring property, not people. Only seven percent of lab-created babies will be born alive. The remaining 93% are destroyed, frozen indefinitely, or otherwise do not survive the risks. SB137 failed in the Senate [15-20](#).

SB46, an Office of the Governor bill that will protect fairness in women's sports. Males should not compete in female sports. Plain and simple. This protection for females includes K-12 and higher education levels. SB46 passed [26-7](#) in the Senate and [50-17](#) in the House and was signed by the Governor.

HB1005, sponsored by Rep. Fred Deutsch (R-District 4) and Sen. Marsha Symens (R-District 25). HB1005 would have assured that girls use private spaces designated for girls and boys use private spaces designated for boys. "Sex" in this bill indicates the student's sex as determined at birth. If a student is unable or unwilling to use facilities according to his/her sex, the school must provide a private space for him/her. HB1005 passed [38-29](#) in the House but was defeated in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

[HB1012](#), an Office of the Governor bill that will protect students and employees at institutions of higher education from “forced” or “compelled” speech in college orientations, training, and professional development (Critical Race Theory). HB1012 does not pertain to classroom discussion. HB1012 passed 60-10 in the House and 27-8 in the Senate and was signed by the Governor. For more information on Critical Race Theory, read the article in our Fall 2021 Newsletter and/or here.

[HB1337](#), an office of the Governor bill, would protect elementary and secondary students from political indoctrination (Critical Race Theory). It passed 50-18 in the House, but failed in the Senate Education Committee.

[HB1246](#), sponsored by Rep. Sue Peterson (R-District 13) and Sen. Jessica Castleberry (R-District 35), was a parental rights bill, “The fundamental right to make decisions concerning the upbringing, education, and care of a child rests with the parents of the child.” HB1246 passed in the House 63-5, but failed in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

[HB1223](#), sponsored by Rep. Erin Healy (D-District 14) and Sen. Blake Curd (R-District 12), would “authorize the provision of informed consent by a pregnant minor.” We opposed this bill because it was an affront to parental rights. It passed in the House 37-33 and in the Senate 30-5. We are pleased that the Governor vetoed HB1223, and the House failed to override the veto. Read her veto letter here.

[SB183](#), sponsored by Sen. Michael Rohl (R-District 1) and Rep. Mark Willadsen (R-District 11), would have increased the limit on the number of video lottery machines in a licensed establishment. CWA of South Dakota has always opposed the expansion of gambling. SB183 failed in the Senate 11-23.

[SJR502](#), sponsored by Sen. Kyle Schoenfish (R-District 19) and Rep. Will Mortenson (R-District 24), would have placed the decision on the November ballot to allow sports wagering via electronic device in South Dakota. The voters decided on the 2020 ballot to allow sports wagering only in Deadwood. SJR502 would have expanded this form of gambling with the approval of the voters. South Dakota ranks second in the nation for gambling addiction. SJR502 passed narrowly in the Senate 18-17 and failed in the House State Affairs Committee.

[SJR501](#), sponsored by Sen. Erin Tobin (R-District 21) and Rep. Greg Jamison (R-District 12) to *apply* to Congress

under Article V of the United States Constitution to call a convention for an amendment to the Constitution establishing congressional term limits. CWA of South Dakota opposed this resolution as we do all *applications* for a Constitutional Convention. Refer to the page 4 article, *The Case AGA/NST Term Limits*, as to why we oppose term limits. SJR501 was defeated in the Senate State Affairs Committee 5-2.

[HJR5001](#), sponsored by Rep. Tom Pischke (R-District 25) and Sen. Blake Curd (R-District 12), was another resolution “to apply for a convention of states under Article V of the Constitution of the United States, to impose fiscal restraints on the federal government, to limit the power and jurisdiction of the federal government, and to limit the terms of office for federal officials and members of Congress.”



We opposed HJR5001 because it would open the Constitution up to any and every desire of unelected delegates. The Constitution is not the problem. The Constitution already imposes fiscal restraints and limits the power and jurisdiction of the federal government. It just needs to be obeyed. HJR5001 passed in the House 39-30, was defeated in the Senate State Affairs Committee, but was smoked out and failed to be placed on the calendar 16-19.

The Case AGAINST Term Limits

"But select capable men from all the people--men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain..."
--Exodus 18:21

Every year, CWA of South Dakota must defend against the onslaught of attempts to tinker with the U.S. Constitution. This year we defeated two resolutions or *applications* for an Article V Constitutional Convention or Con Con.

SJR501 was an application for a Constitutional Convention for Congressional term limits. The topic "term limits" sounds like a good idea at first glance, knowing the lack of true conservative statesmen populating our U.S. Congress who adhere to the Constitution. No matter the topic or theme, any topic acts like an "admission ticket" for a Con Con. Once the Con Con begins, unelected delegates can bring any subject matter for consideration.

Term limits come with unexpected consequences:

- ◆ The Articles of Confederation, our first Constitution, had term limits, but experience led the Founders to omit them in our current Constitution.
- ◆ Since South Dakota imposed term limits for the state legislature, good legislators were termed out. We lost that "institutional wisdom." To whom do newly-elected legislators look for guidance?
- ◆ **Term limits deny the voter the liberty to vote for his or her choice.** We are throwing the baby out with the bathwater.
- ◆ If Members of Congress were termed out, their staff simply moves on to another congressman. Influential staff are not termed. Neither are lobbyists nor unelected bureaucrats.
- ◆ Interestingly, Congress has a mere [18% approval rate](#) but has a [96% re-election rate](#). Why do we continue to re-elect them? A well-informed electorate is necessary to demand adherence to the Constitution and accountability.

- ◆ President James Garfield said, "Now more than ever the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless, and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness, and corruption."
- ◆ In a lawmaker's final term, no longer believing he is accountable to his constituents, he might promote objectionable policy and accept favors from lobbyists.
- ◆ **The best term limits are elections.**

We "termed" Sen. Tom Daschle (D-SD) out of office by exposing his voting record. We "termed" Sen. George McGovern (D-SD), too.

Founding Father's Wisdom:

- ◆ Gouverneur Morris of Pennsylvania stated at the 1787 Convention, "Term limits tended to destroy the great motive to good behavior, the hope of being rewarded by re-appointment."
- ◆ Alexander Hamilton wrote in Federalist #72, "Nothing appears more plausible at first sight, nor more ill-founded upon close inspection [than term limits]. One ill effect of the exclusion would be a diminution of the inducement to good behavior."



CWA Membership State & National: A donation of \$25 or more has TWO benefits: membership in CWA of South Dakota *and* membership in CWA national. All donations given to CWA of South Dakota remain in South Dakota for state projects. Write your check out to "Concerned Women for America," put "CWA of SD" on the memo line, and send in the envelope provided. Or, give online at sd.cwfa.org.

Your renewed annual membership/additional donation is greatly appreciated. All donations sent to CWA national in response to their mailings are utilized in Washington, D.C. All contributions are tax-deductible.