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# Courier Citizens'

◆ PROTECTING THE FAMILY SINCE 1983 ◆

Vol 6 Issue 4

## CCV Prepares to Take HB 176 Battle to the Senate

### House Amendments Had No Impact On Bill's Key Provisions

"The most radical, oppressive bill that we have encountered in our 26 years of defending Christian family values."

"Insidious legislation that would discriminate, indoctrinate, and strip away fundamental rights and freedoms."

That's how CCV's staff described HB 176, the deceptively titled "Equal Housing and Employment Act," when it was first introduced in the Ohio House of Representatives in May of this year.

Soon, HB 176 will be under consideration in the Ohio Senate. And those descriptive phrases are just as apropos today as they were three months ago.

### No Substantive Change

"As the debate moves to the Senate, the bill's core injustices are still intact," reports CCV's vice president of public policy, David Miller, who has coordinated CCV's drive to expose and defeat HB 176. "Amendments attached during the House debate had little effect on the bill's frightening provisions."

- The version of HB 176 to be considered by the Senate would still elevate "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" to the status of protected classes under all Ohio civil rights law. In doing so it would strip the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of conscience from Ohio business and property owners, depriving them of their fundamental right to make decisions based on deeply-held religious convictions regarding certain sexual behaviors.

- It would still require affirmative action on the part of state agencies, political subdivisions and private businesses that would pursue contracts with the state or its subdivisions. Such entities would be required to actively pursue the hiring of homosexuals, crossdressers and others in the new protected classes. That is blatant reverse discrimination.

- It would still require the Department of Education to prepare training programs for all public school students – kindergarten through high school. The effect of such programs still would be to teach that moral objection to distorted sexual behaviors is equivalent to prejudice and hatred and



*Defeating H.B. 176 in the Senate will remain our overriding legislative issue."*

**David Miller, VP, PUBLIC POLICY**

would force children who have been taught at home that homosexual behaviors are wrong to remain silent or risk being penalized by teachers and ostracized or bullied by their classmates.

- It would still prohibit pre-school programs (public and private) from discriminating in the hiring of teaching and non-teaching positions on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity – thus overriding parents' rights to decide on the proper role models for their children.

### Senate Battle is Key

Because liberal Democrats hold a majority in the House, passage in committee there came as no surprise to CCV's staff, and passage on the full floor when the House reconvenes in September is consid-

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# Americans' Support for Same-Sex Marriage Goes Downhill

## Nine-point Drop in Two Months

According to a CBS News/*New York Times* poll conducted in June, only 33 percent of Americans now support same-sex marriage.

The national poll asked, "Which comes closest to your view? Gay couples should be allowed to legally marry. OR, Gay couples should be allowed to form civil unions but not legally marry. OR, There should be no legal recognition of a gay couple's relationship."

62 percent favored either civil unions or no legal recognition; five percent responded that they were unsure.

Just two months earlier, in response to the same questions, 42 percent supported same-sex marriage. June's 33 percent represented a nine-point drop in a two-month time period.

### Why the Sudden and Significant Drop?

Opinions vary. Probably there is a combination of contributing factors.

Some see it as a reaction to recent violent protests by militant homosexual activists, particularly in California, where voters passed Proposition 8 last November to embed the traditional, one-man/one-woman definition of marriage in their state's constitution.

Some conjecture that the drop in support is a backlash from Americans who have seen same-sex marriage forced on states either by courts or by legislatures. Only six states have legalized "same-sex marriage," and in none of those states were citizens allowed to vote on the decision.

CCV's vice president of public policy, David Miller, believes that the most significant factor may be a bolder stance within the Church for the Biblical truth of marriage as the union of one man and one woman only.

"To those within the Church," Miller explains, "the significance of one-man, one-woman marriage goes even beyond its importance to the health and stability of our nation. It is fundamental to our faith — rooted in Creation and intended to be a reflection of the very nature and character of our Triune God as well as the relationship between Christ and the Church."

"It is not the prerogative of the courts, the administration, or even the people to altar the Biblical truth of marriage."

*"Haven't you read," he (Christ) replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."*  
— MATTHEW 19: 4-6 (NIV)

## MEANWHILE...

# Obama Support of Same-Sex Agenda Continues to Rise

On June 28, 2009, President Barack Obama held a ceremony in the White House to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the event homosexual activists consider the official birth of their political movement — the "Stonewall Riots," during which hundreds of same-sex activists rioted violently around a New York "gay" bar.

"We've been in office six months now," Obama stated in his opening remarks. "I suspect that by the time this administration is over...you guys will have pretty good feelings about the Obama administration."

Specific promises that our president made to the same-sex activist leaders include the following:

- Overturning the federal Defense of Marriage Act
- Passing a law to mandate health-care and other benefits to homosexual domestic partners
- Repealing the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy
- Rescinding the discriminatory ban on entry to the United



Biblical truth: "Worn arguments and old attitudes."

States based on HIV status

- Passing the federal hate crimes bill, a violation of the foundation principle of equal protection under the law and a threat to freedom of religious expression

With respect to the Biblical stance on marriage and the foundational role marriage has played in American society, Obama lumped such truths into one category, which he labeled "worn arguments and old attitudes."

Responding to Obama's remarks, CCV's vice president of public policy, David Miller said, "Such an attitude toward our nation's fundamental social institution should not come as a surprise. After all, this is the person who refused to hold a White House ceremony to celebrate the National Day of Prayer, and who announced to the world that America is no longer a Christian nation. His values are dangerously out-of-synch with the majority of the American citizens."

# CCV Teams With American Majority in Candidate & Activist Training

*Cincinnati seminar to be repeated in Columbus August 22*

More than 40 Ohioans gathered in the Cintas Center on the campus of Xavier University on Saturday, July 25. They varied in age from young adults to senior citizens. Their professional experiences, educational backgrounds and religious affiliations were equally as varied.

One common denominator united them: a desire to be more effective in restoring conservative, Judeo-Christian family values to their culture.

They were in the right place.

In conjunction with CCV, American Majority (AM) was conducting a Candidate and Activist Training Seminar.

Considered by many the nation's premiere provider of conservative political training conferences, AM has an experienced staff dedicated to providing people of all levels of experience and skill the practical tools they need to make a positive difference in their culture.

The Cincinnati seminar featured a dual track — one for those interested in running for office, and one for those seeking to become more effective activists.

After general sessions in the morning, participants on the activist track received specialized training in building coalitions, organizing events, engaging media, participating in political campaigns, and effectively communicating views.

Afternoon sessions for the candidate track included inten-

sive training in planning and implementing campaigns, fundraising, utilizing traditional and cutting-edge media, and organizing the grassroots.

The seminar will be repeated at Otterbein University in greater Columbus on August 22. For registration information, contact Kerry Baldwin at [Kerry@americanmajority.org](mailto:Kerry@americanmajority.org) or call (501) 801-1030.



## "Protected Class"

*What does it mean?*

Federal courts have clearly established three criteria — and all three must be in place — for a class of people to receive protected class status under civil rights law.

1. They must be identified by an immutable, non-behavior based characteristic, such as skin color, ethnicity, sex, etc.
2. They must have experienced a history of discrimination resulting in economic deprivation.
3. They must be politically powerless, i.e., they must lack the ability to obtain meaningful political representation.

Persons who identify themselves by their "sexual orientation" or "gender identity" clearly do not meet any of these criteria.

## HB 176 Battle

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ered virtually inevitable.

"The time and resources that we devoted to the House campaign were not wasted, though," Miller contends. "We could not let the proponents' deceitful language go unchallenged in the Legislature or the media, and it was important to let all representatives know that conservative constituents throughout the state considered the vote on HB 176 a decisive gauge of where they stood on pro-family issues."

Miller described amendments attached to the bill during consideration in the House as "primarily cosmetic" in nature. "They were incidental to the core of the bill," he explained, "primarily addressing claim procedure issues in an effort to make the bill more palliative to the business community."

"In spite of the fact that the conservative majority in the Senate should understand the inherently discriminatory nature of this radical bill, defeat in the Senate is not a given," Miller warns. Well-funded homosexual lobbyist organizations — both statewide and national — are working hard to sell HB 176 as a compassionate measure, distorting the bill's unconstitutional and dangerous ramifications."

"HB 176 is one of the most un-American and anti-Christian bill ever considered by our Legislature," Miller asserted. "Defeating it in the Senate will remain our overriding legislative issue."

Components of CCV's strategy to defeat HB 176 in the Sen-

ate include:

- Preparing and personally presenting legislative background information and talking points to every senator;
- Coordinating a key-vote campaign with all Ohio pro-family organizations;
- Preparing and presenting primary opponent testimony in committee hearings and arranging other expert testimony;
- Educating the electorate through e-mail campaigns and through public service announcements and interviews on Christian radio.

## Your Action is Critical

Contact your Ohio senator weekly with the message that he/she has a duty to defend your constitutional rights by voting NO on HB 176. It is imperative that our contacts outnumber those generated by homosexual activists. Visit the Action Center at [CCV.org](http://CCV.org) to phone, mail or e-mail a message.

Share this information with your family and friends. The overwhelming majority of Ohioans still have no idea that their Legislature is considering a bill that would deprive them of their most cherished freedoms. Visit the Action Center at [CCV.org](http://CCV.org), download a copy of this article to reproduce, and distribute it.

