
Multi-Pronged LGBTQAI Attack on Morality

Where? Public, Private, Religious Education, Crime & Employment

Sexual offenses and crimes in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) are divided into five categories: Sexual Assault, Sexual Battery, Sexual Exploitation of Children, Sexual Intercourse, and Sexual Offenses. Within those five categories are at least 45 subdivisions.

Sexual crimes and offenses reflect behaviors found to be harmful to those who participate and to society as a whole. Penalties demanded upon conviction of illicit sexual behavior are intended to deter repeat offenders and prevent dalliance by anyone tempted to experiment. The Code sections under attack are all-inclusive. Title 31 deals with AIDS/HIV; Title 24 concerns DNA; Title 19 confronts child sexual abuse; Title 17, rape; Title 20, student reporting; Title 15, duties of magistrates; and Title 16 extensively covers sexual offenses from fornication to adultery to bestiality to incest to necrophilia to reckless conduct and beyond.

Thus far, a cluster of bills has been introduced in this year's legislative session to redirect morality in Georgia. Four additional bills would establish and fund services for victims of "sexual servitude," which includes individuals trafficked for sexual purposes, *plus* anyone under age 18 who participates voluntarily in prostitution, pornography, lewd massage, *et al.*

All Schools: H.B. 40, prefiled by Representative Keisha Waites (D) January 9th, drastically changes (a) discipline policies for K – 12 students, (b) bullying definitions (c) for all public and private schools, and (d) provides no exemption for religious school doctrines.

Currently, Georgia bullying law treats all students equally; it does not carve out special groups for special treatment or extra punishment. Student-to-student bullying is penalized the same for all students, regardless of lifestyles of those involved. H.B. 40 would *require each local board of education, charter school and private school* to adopt policies that mandate enhanced penalties for students and school employees who "bully" or "harass" anyone who actually is or is perceived to be of another "race, color, national origin, sex, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion or any other distinguishing characteristic that may be defined by a state or local educational agency." (Proposed new language is underlined.)

If sex and gender had the same meaning, the word "sex" would not be included along with "gender, gender identity and sexual orientation" in this bill. Sex is the biological identification of male and female humans, plants and animals. Gender is the behavior by which males and females express or present their sexuality.

By placing gender, gender identity and sexual orientation in this list, deviant sexual behavior is elevated into a civil rights category, although the other classifications in the list are immutable, with the exception of religion, which is a spiritual choice. Also, note: the bill provides that *additional characteristics* may be listed, *ad infinitum*, by state or local educational agencies.

ACTION – Oppose. It protects students in deviant sexual behavior more than other students. Call Education Committee Representatives Coleman, Ch., 404 656-9210; Dudgeon, V-Ch., 656-0298; and Benton, Sec., 463-3793.

Bills would Affirm LGBT in Schools & Courts
No Religious School Exemption in H.B. 40 or H.B. 142

• **Public, Private, Religious Schools must Affirm LGBT**

H.B. 142, introduced January 29th by Representative Simone Bell (D), would require schools or programs to adopt LGBT-affirming policies to receive student scholarship organization funds. Since an eligible school is a “nonpublic pre-kindergarten program, primary school or secondary school,” Bible-based pre-K-12 won’t qualify for scholarships, unless their policy ... “Does not discriminate in *hiring or admission* on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or gender identity as defined in 18 U.S.C. Section 249(c)(4).” (H.B. 142, lines 38-40, emphasis added.)

Such policies openly discriminate against Bible-based values of students and employees.

ACTION – Oppose, because it codifies religious discrimination. Contact Education Committee Representatives Coleman, Ch., 404 656-9210; Dudgeon, V-Ch., 656-0298; Benton, Sec., 463-3793; Belton, 656-0152; Beskin, 656-0254; Cantrell, 656-0202; Carter, 463-2248; Casas, 656-0254; Chandler, 656-0254; Clark, 656-0325; Dickerson*, 656-0314; Dickson, 463-2246; Glanton*, 657-1803; Howard, 656-5373; J. Jones, 656-5072; Kaiser, 656-0265; Maxwell, 656-5143; Mayo*, 656-6372; Setzler, 656-7857; Stovall*, 656-0314; Tanner, 656-0152; Teasley, 656-5146. (*Democrat)

• **Criminal Penalties Increase, Based on Lifestyle**

S.B. 47, introduced by Senator Vincent Fort (D) January 26th, would drastically alter Georgia’s moral Code. Currently, every citizen has equal protection under the law, regardless of race, religion, sex, or national origin. However, for crimes in which the victim’s lifestyle is or is perceived to be of a variant gender, gender identity or sexual orientation, S.B. 47 requires significant changes in Georgia law as follows:

- ~Simple assault would become high and aggravated, *3 to 20* years in prison, up from *1 to 20*.
- ~Simple battery becomes high and aggravated with *5 to 20* years in prison, up from *1 to 20*.
- ~First degree criminal damage to property becomes *3 to 10* years in prison, up from *1 to 10*.
- ~Second degree criminal damage to property, becomes *2 to 5* years in prison, up from *1 to 5*.

Gender is not a synonym for the word “sex,” which depicts biological identification of male or female persons, animals and plants. Gender, gender identity and sexual orientation indicate the sexual preference, behavior or orientation of individuals, *i.e.* lifestyle.

ACTION – Oppose. Contact Non-Civil Judiciary Committee Senators Stone, Ch., 404 463-1314; Ligon, Jr., V-Ch., 656-0045; Kennedy, Sec., 656-7454; Bethel, 463-1383; Crane, 656-6446; Fort*, 656-5091; H. Hill, 463-2518; H. Jones II*, 463-3042; McKoon, 463-3931; Parent*, 656-5109. (*Democrat)

• **Employment: Gender, Gender ID, and Sexual Orientation get Civil Rights Status**

H.B. 323, introduced February 12th by Representative Karla Drenner (D), would add “sexual orientation” to State government employment nondiscrimination policies and defines sexual orientation as “a person’s actual or perceived heterosexuality, *bisexuality, homosexuality, or gender related identity or expression.*” H.B. 323 would elevate sexual lifestyles to Civil Rights Status, alongside race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, or age, all of which are immutable characteristics, with the exception of religion, a personal choice. “Sex” identifies male and female; sexual orientation indicates behavior variant from biological construct.

ACTION – Oppose. Contact Judiciary Committee Representatives Willard, Ch., 404 656-515; Fleming, V-Ch., 656-0152; Beskin, 656-1544; Bruce*, 656-0314; Caldwell, 656-0325; Evans*, 656-6372; Golick, 656-5943; Jacobs, 656-5116; Jones*, 656-7859; Kelley, 656-0287; Mabra*, 656-7859; Oliver*, 656-0265; O’Neal, 656-5052; Powell, 656-7855; Rutledge, 6756-0109; Stephenson*, 656-0126; Welch, 656-0213; Weldon, 656-5105; & Wilkinson, 463-8143. (*Democrat)

Organ Donor Law, Balanced Budget Amendment & Federal Funding

H.B. 210 introduced February 4, 2015 by Representative Terry Rogers (R) replaces the bill he prefiled in December. H.B. 210 adds a personal identification card to current items on which an individual age 18 or older may register as a decedent organ donor. It's a good bill that needs a little tweaking to assure it indicates the wishes of those who choose NOT to donate organs, as well as those who DO register as donors. The bill states on lines 30-34:

“A notation shall be affixed to or made a part of every driver’s license and personal identification card issued in this state indicating whether or not the licensee or cardholder has executed, under Chapter 5 of Title 44, the ‘Georgia Revised Uniform Anatomical Gift Act,’ a gift, by will or otherwise of all or part of his or her body conditioned upon the donor’s death.” (The underlined words would be the changes in current law.)

Suggested Amendment*: Each driver’s license and personal ID card authorizing a personal choice about anatomical donations should contain, in equal-sized letters side-by-side on the document, a YES and a NO by which the owner indicates whether his or her deceased body will be available for harvesting. The YES or NO shall be honored as though it were a contract.

ACTION – Ask Rep. Rogers, 404 656-0178, to amend his bill as suggested above*. Ask the same of Motor Vehicles Committee Representatives Rice, Ch., 404 656-5912; Epps, V-Ch., 656-0298; Battles, Sec., 657-8441; Alexander*, 656-7859; Barr, 656-0325; Caldwell, 656-0325; Douglas*, 656-7859; Howard*, 656-6372; Jones, 656-0126; Jordan*, 656-0116; Powell, 463-3793; Prince*, 656-0116; Stover, 656-0177; Trammell*, 656-0314; Yates, 656-5126. (*Democrat)

S.R. 155 introduced by Senator Judson Hill (R) February 9th urges Congress to adopt and submit to the states a balanced budget amendment to the U.S. Constitution and to balance the current federal budget. The federal debt now exceeds \$18 trillion, which is over \$56,000 per person, if divided equally among the population. A similar amendment proposed by Congress in 1995 failed to pass by only one vote in the U.S. Senate. This bill allows expenditures to exceed revenues for the following reasons only:

“Except during a war declared by Congress pursuant to Article I, Sec. 8, Clause 11 of the U.S. Constitution or other national emergency, the total of all federal appropriations for a fiscal year may not exceed the total of all estimated federal revenue for that fiscal year and also providing for a spending limitation.”

ACTION – Support. Contact Government Oversight Committee Senators Heath, Ch., 656-3943; Harbin, V-Ch., 656-0078; Kirk, Sec., 463-5258; Parent*, 656-5109; Seay*, 656-5095.

H.B. 14 introduced by Representative Scot Turner (R) January 15th would route all federal funding through the General Assembly for disbursement to the proper local authority or local government. H.B. 14 specifies that no state authority, agency, board, bureau, commission, department, office, public corporation, or entity of state government could accept federal funds in any form or for any purpose, without approval by the General Assembly. Federal funds received prior to General Assembly approval would be paid into the state treasury and held until the General Assembly acts. Rejected funds would be returned to the federal government. Since federal funding is always accompanied by regulations that may contradict state and local ordinances, policies and regulations, routing federal money through the General Assembly could expose any unacceptable attached strings, before local governments become entangled.

ACTION – Support. Contact Appropriations Committee officers: Representatives England, Ch., 404 463-245; Greene, V-Ch., 656-0202; Rynders, Sec., 656-6801: Subcommittee chairmen: Carter, 463-2248; Dempsey, Dickson, Ehrhart, Houston and Parrish at 463-2247; Peake, Ex-Officio, 656-5025 and Jay Powell, Ex-Officio, 656-7855.

Stand Your Ground, Foreign Law & APUSH

S.B. 49 introduced by Senator Vincent Fort (D) January 26th would repeal in its entirety Georgia's "stand-your-ground" law, which states:

"No duty to retreat prior to use of force in self-defense. A person who uses threats or force in accordance with Code Section 16-3-21, relating to the use of force in defense of self or others, Code Section 16-3-23, relating to the use of force in defense of a habitation, or Code Section 16-3-24, relating to the use of force in defense of property other than a habitation has no duty to retreat and has the right to stand his or her ground and use force as provided in Code sections, including deadly force." (O.C.G.A. 16-3-23-1, enacted by S.B. 396, 2006)

If S.B. 49 passes, Georgians could NOT adequately defend themselves, their families, property or vehicles, even when faced with threats of deadly force.

ACTION – Oppose. Contact Judiciary Committee Senators McKoon, Ch., 404 463-3931; Cowser, V-Ch., 463-1366; Bethel, Sec., 463-1383; Fort*, 656-5091; Kennedy, 656-7454; Ligon, 656-0045; Ramsey, 463-2598; Stone, Ex-Officio, 463-1314; Williams, 656-0089. (*Democrat)

H.B. 171 introduced by Representative Hightower (R) February 2nd would prohibit the use and enforcement of foreign laws by any court, arbitration panel, administrative agency, or other tribunal, if U.S. or Georgia constitutional rights may be violated. Foreign law is defined as:

"[A]ny law, legal code, or system of a jurisdiction outside of any state or territory of the United States, including, but not limited to, international organizations and tribunals, and applied by such jurisdiction's courts, administrative bodies, or other formal or informal tribunals. However, for this Code section, the term does not mean or include any laws of the Native American tribes in this state.... [It does] apply to domestic relation contracts, including, but not limited to antenuptial (pre-nuptial) agreements or contracts, divorce agreements, adoptions, and other contracts or agreements related to or arising from matters of family law.... No court shall ... allow a case to be refiled in a foreign jurisdiction" whose decisions may violate privileges guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

ACTION – Support. Contact House Judiciary Committee Representatives Willard, Ch., 404 656-5125; Fleming, V-Ch., 656-0152; Allison, Sec., 656-0188; Beskin, 656-0254; Bruce*, 656-0314; Caldwell, 656-0325; Evans*, 656-6372; Golick, 656-5943; Jacobs, 656-5116; Jones, 656-7859; Kelley, 656-0287; Mabra*, 656-7859; Oliver*, 656-0265; O'Neal, 656-5052; Powell, 656-7855; Rutledge, 656-0109; Stephenson*, 656-0126; Welch, 656-0213; Weldon, 656-5105; and Wilkinson, 463-8143. (*Democrat)

S.R. 80 introduced by Senator William Ligon January 28th demands the revision of the new APUSH framework, that reflects a (a) radically revisionist view of U.S. history; (b) emphasizes negative aspects of U.S. history but omits or minimizes its positive aspects; (c) minimizes discussion of U.S. Founding Fathers, the (d) principles of the Declaration of Independence, (e) religious influences on U.S. history, and (f) other long-time topics of APUSH.

It (g) presents a biased inaccurate view of many important themes and events in U.S. history, including the (h) nature of the American free enterprise system, the (i) course and resolution of the Great Depression, and the (j) development of and victory in the Cold War, while (k) radically differing from Georgia Performance Standards for Social Studies.

ACTION – Support. Contact Education & Youth Committee Senators Tippins, Ch., 404 656-0406; Wilkinson, V-Ch., 463-5257; Sims*, Sec., 463-5259; Black, 656-3932; Fort*, 656-5091; Hufstetler, 656-0034; James*, 463-1379; Millar, 463-2260; Stone, 463-1314; and Tate*, 463-8053. (*Democrat)

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