

# Georgia insight

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*"She hath done what she could."  
Mark 14:8a*

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## With 4 Days Left in Session, Critical Bills Still Need Contacts

On Tuesday afternoon the House Judiciary Committee held hearings for two very important bills: S.B. 235 requiring personal permission for a microchip implant and S.B. 529 prohibiting coercive (forced) abortions and abortions based on the sex or race of the child.

**S.B. 235** is Georgia's effort to join other states – California, Oklahoma, Wisconsin and Oklahoma – that have passed laws mandating the individual's permission before a microchip could be implanted in that individual. Other states, including Ohio, Colorado and Florida, are studying the issue, as well. However, it has been thoroughly studied in Georgia since 2006, when a special House committee held a series of hearings to learn how microchips were then used and their expected use in the future. The full gamut of interested parties – law enforcement, medical professionals, business – attended the meetings, shared experiences and plans for bar codes, RFID tags and the more complex microchip implants for animals and humans.

Since that time, microchip implants have been successfully marketed and human volunteers have been implanted, causing fertile-minded politicians to consider mandatory microchips for certain segments of society. Also, medical professionals are considering them as a surveillance tool to monitor the population for infections. That adds to the possibility of mandatory implants for the entire population, much like vaccines are mandated for contagious diseases.

A smaller, less bulky, chip-less RFID tattoo has been developed for application to the skin and insurance companies have worked to develop a business case for chipping clients. Groups most often suggested as "fair game" for chipping, include Alzheimer's patients, sex offenders, convicts, illegal aliens and parolees. Without a law requiring personal consent, that list could include the entire population, since microchips could be the ultimate surveillance mechanism.

The original version of S.B. 235 included a civil action for anyone covertly implanted with a microchip. Penalty: \$10,000 daily from discovery until removal. However, the Senate Judiciary Committee classified violations as a misdemeanor and allows the person violated to file a civil suit for damages, with no specified amount. Any voluntary microchip implant must be done by a physician regulated by the Georgia Composite Medical Board.

**ACTION – Support. (a) Please scan these names.**

**(b) If your representative is on this committee, please ask him to put S.B. 235 on the Rules Calendar for a vote on the House floor. Then, ask several of the following members to vote YES on S.B. 235.** Call Rules Committee Representatives Hembree, Ch., 404 656-5141; Willard, 656-5125; Mills, 656-5099; Hugley, 656-5058; Porter, 656-5058; Barnard, 656-5138; Bearden, 656-0287; Benton, 656-0177; Burkhalter, 656-7146; Casas, 656-0254; Chambers, 656-3949; Channell, 656-7856; Coan, 656-6801; Cole, 651-7737; Cooper, 656-5069; Dempsey, 656-0213; Drenner, 656-0202; Ehrhart, 463-2247; Greene, 656-0314; Hanner, 656-7859; Jacobs, 656-052; Jan Jones, 656-5072; Keen, 656-5052; Bob Lane, 656-5115; Lunsford, 656-0213; Manning, 656-7857; Millar, 656-5064; Morris, 657-8441; Mosby, 656-0287; Parrish, 463-2247; Randall, 6560-0109; Rice, 656-5912; Roberts, 656-7153; Austin Scott, 656-0188; Shaw, 656-7859; Lynn Smith, 656-7149; Bob Smith, 656-0126; Smyre, 656-0116; Stephens, 656-5099; and Len Walker, 656-5146.

April 16, 2010

## ***Of National Importance: S.B 529 Prohibits Forced Abortions***

*“We also want to bring to your attention just how vitally important this piece of legislation is. It has powerful implications for the sanctity of human life nationwide. It is a piece of legislation that could shake the very foundations of Roe vs. Wade!”*

– Governor Mike Huckabee, April 15, 2010

### **Presidential Candidate, Governor Huckabee’s message to Georgians:**

*“Senate Bill 529 is a simple bill that protects a woman from being forced into having an abortion against her will and prohibits the use of abortion as a means of race or gender discrimination. It was passed by Georgia Senate with overwhelming support and is now being held up in the House Judiciary after a hearing was held this past Tuesday. Representative Wendell Willard is the Chairman of the committee.*

*“It is important that you call your State Representative’s Capitol office today and ask him/her to encourage House Leadership to move S.B. 529 out of the committee and onto the floor of the House for a vote. Some of the best pro-life attorneys in the nation have helped craft the language of S.B. 529 and it is very important that the bill pass the Georgia House with NO amendments and be voted on as was in the Senate.*

*“We also want to bring to your attention just how vitally important this piece of legislation is. It has powerful implications for the sanctity of human life nationwide. It is a piece of legislation that could shake the very foundations of Roe vs. Wade! We are asking you to please contact your State Representative today to urge them to support S.B. 529.”*

### ***S.B. 529, Perfect Challenge to Roe v. Wade***

The House Non Civil Judiciary Committee killed H.B. 1155, prompting the introduction of S.B. 529 by Senator Chip Pearson March 18<sup>th</sup>. It passed the Senate 33 – 14 on March 26<sup>th</sup> and could pass this session, if the bottle-neck is broken in the House Judiciary Committee. On Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, S.B. 529 was given a committee hearing, igniting hope that it would pass, but the rest of the plan was to NOT have a vote. Since there was no vote, S.B. 529 was left in the Judiciary Committee, with only four days left this session. *So, great pressure must be put on legislators!*

### **ACTION – Support**

#### **• Ask your representative and members of the Judiciary committee these questions:**

*Do you want a woman to be forced into aborting her baby?*

If the answer is, “No,” tell him to vote for S.B. 529 in committee and on the House floor.

*Do you want a baby aborted because of its race?*

If the answer is, “No,” tell him to vote for S.B. 529 in committee and on the House floor.

*Do you want a baby aborted because parents want to select the sex of their child?*

If the answer is, “No,” tell him to vote for S.B. 529 in committee and on the House floor.

*Do you want Georgia to pass a bill that will be a positive influence on the entire nation?*

If the answer is, “Yes,” tell him to vote for S.B. 529 in committee and on the House floor.

- Ask the Speaker (404 656-5020) to move S.B. 529 from committee onto the House floor.**
- Ask Judiciary Chairman Willard (404 656-5125) to move S.B. 529 out of his committee.**

## ***Alert Legislators: Prostitution Bill Might Be Amended onto Another Bill***

*“The last few days are the most dangerous of the session!”*

– Speaker of the Georgia House, Tom Murphy, Longest Serving House Speaker in U.S. History

At the end of each 40-day session, the pace increases dramatically, allowing bills to pass that would never pass, if they were adequately debated. They’re in those last days right now. Next Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> is the 35<sup>th</sup> day and the Senate convenes at 2:00 p.m. The Senate calendar for the day has already been set and H.B. 651 is scheduled for a vote.

**H.B. 651** is a simple bill about registration of sexual offenders. It requires the Department of Education to obtain the GBI list of names and addresses of registered sexual offenders and provide access to such information to each school in the state. Current law requires them to *send the list to the schools*. The underlined phrase is the change it makes and I do not object.

However, this bill could be used as a “vehicle” to “carry” one of three prostitution bills we’ve fought this session – S.B. 304, H.B. 582 and H.B. 1256. They all define juvenile sex offenders as victims entitled to victim compensation funds, although they’re engaged in prostitution, masturbation for hire and pornography. But S.B. 304 goes further. It, also, classifies them as “unruly” children, thereby suggesting that juvenile sex crimes are no more serious than truancy.

**Also, H.B. 571** could be a “vehicle” for S.B. 304, H.B. 582 or H.B. 1256, since it’s about sexual offenders, their registration and restrictions on places they live, work and frequent.

Since H.B. 651 and H.B. 571, mentioned above, are in the Senate, efforts may be made to attach S.B. 304 to one of them before the last day of the session, which is April 29<sup>th</sup>. If S.B. 304, H.B. 582 or H.B. 1256 were to pass, Georgia would be the first state in the U.S. to decriminalize prostitution, masturbation for hire and pornographic activities for juveniles. Juveniles could be solicited into, practice and be paid in a sex trade without penalty, restriction or fear of arrest.

**ACTION – Ask your senator to be aware of this possibility and to vote NO on any bill that decriminalizes prostitution for any age. Your voter registration card includes the district number of your legislators. If you don’t know who they are, call the local public library and they can give you their names and contact numbers.**

### ***English-Only Driver’s License Tests***

**S.B. 67** requires written and oral exams for drivers’ licenses to be administered only in English, but allows anyone eligible for a temporary license to be tested in another language. Anyone charged with a misdemeanor traffic offense must complete an approved defensive driving course. This passed the Senate 37 – 14 on March 20, 2009 and the House 104 – 58 on March 30, 2009. However, both House and Senate bills included substitute language. The Senate refused to agree with the House substitute last year. So, it’s now poised to pass this year, provided the Senate agrees with the House.

This bill is, actually, in limbo. It could pass if the author, Senator Jack Murphy, asked the House to agree with the Senate version. This is the exact position of this bill in 2009, with one exception. This year the Senate must agree with the House change, whereas, last session the House had to agree with the Senate change. Games are being played, folks. With all these agrees and disagrees, every senator and representative can declare support for the bill if they choose to use it as a campaign issue, but it might never become law.

**ACTION – Support. Call Senator Jack Murphy at 404 656-7127** and ask him to go over to the House and request the House to agree with his bill as amended in the Senate. Otherwise, it will be left in limbo.

## ***Poised to Pass: Gun-Carry Bills Keep Licensure in Counties***

### ***S.B. 291: A Good Bill, But It Needs a Tiny Amendment***

S.B. 291 needs an amendment that would not affect gun laws but could protect Georgia culture. Sometimes, bills are used to change culture in a way that has nothing to do with the subject of the bill and this is one of those times.

Since the politically correct phenomenon has permeated society, incremental changes have, automatically, crept into law. One of the changes consistently made in Georgia legislation is the replacement of the word “sex” with “gender,” wherever possible, without arousing attention to the dramatic difference in those two words.

“Sex” defines the sexes as male and female. But “gender” opens male and female identities to various subdivisions based on behavior and preference, instead of anatomy. Those subdivisions – homosexual, lesbian, bisexual and transgender – lead to identity confusion and cultural disarray.

If S.B. 291 passes with this change in it, this good bill would be a tool for social change never intended by Senator David Shafer, with whom I spoke about this problem. Senator Shafer does not want gun licenses to include a multiple identity choice, such as L, G, B, T, Q, A, I (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, allies, intersex) instead of M or F (male or female)

**S.B. 291** introduced by Senator Shafer the last day of the 2009 session passed the Senate 43 – 10 on March 24, 2010 to revise carry-laws for concealed weapons. It provides the following:

- (a) A person licensed or permitted to carry a gun may do so in a vehicle when dropping off or picking up a passenger at airports or airport facilities.
- (b) To renew a license to carry a gun, the holder send the completed appropriate forms and the \$15 fee to the county probate judge at least 45 days before the license expires.
- (c) On U.S. citizens, the GBI will do a background check and charge a fee for the investigation.
- (d) U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement will verify renewal eligibility of non-citizens.
- (e) The fingerprint requirement is deleted and the word sex is replaced with “gender<sup>1</sup>.”
- (f) Licenses issued to former law enforcement officers will have a distinctive style or color.
- (g) During a declared state of emergency, *no state or local official*, National Guard, or anyone operating under state law or under control of a political subdivision, receiving state funds, could seize or authorize seizure of a firearm, could require registration, prohibit possession or carrying of any firearm.
- (h) Such seizure may result in a lawsuit against any person depriving the citizen of these rights, privileges or immunities. The firearm would be returned and the citizen’s attorney fees paid.

**ACTION** – Ask members of the committee to delete the word “gender” on line 216 on page 7 and line 251 on page 8 and retain the word “sex” as in current law. Call Public Safety and Homeland Security Representatives Day, Ch., 404 656-5096; Talton, 656-0254; Maddox, 656-0109; Black, 656-0287; Collins, 656-0188; Frazier, 656-0265; Hanner, 656-7859; Horne, 656-0287; Jackson, 656-0314; and Neal, 656-0152.

<sup>1</sup> The word “gender” must be deleted and the word “sex” continued as it is in current law.