
S.B. 529 Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act Action Needed

S.B. 529 introduced by Senator Chip Pearson March 18th passed the Senate 33 – 14 March 26th and could pass this session. It (a) prohibits abortion based on the sex or race of a child and (b) prohibits coercive (forced) abortion. After it passed the Senate and went to the House, the Speaker put it in the House Judiciary Committee, whose members will decide its fate.

S.B. 529 is the Senate version of the Prenatal Nondiscrimination Act (PreNDA), which was introduced as H.B. 1155 and died in the House Non Civil Judiciary Committee. S.B. 529 will be killed, also, unless an avalanche of contacts is made to Judiciary Committee Chairman Willard and his committee members.

Facts Prompting the Introduction of this Legislation

- (a) In 2008, Georgia had the highest reported number of black abortions in the U.S.
- (b) Abortion providers have historically targeted the black community nationwide.
- (c) Prenatal sex selection is available in the United States and worldwide.
- (d) Young Georgia women pregnant with bi-racial babies have been coerced into abortion to prevent mixed-race births.
- (e) Black women abort their babies more than three times the rate of white women.

If S.B. 529 passes, anyone attempting to *coerce or solicit* a female to abort for the reason of race, color or sex of her unborn would be guilty of a crime. Also, a crime would be committed by anyone who performs an abortion, *knowing* the procedure was motivated by race, color or sex of the baby. Likewise, it would be a crime to perform abortions intended to control the population of a specific race or sex.

Pregnant women would not be criminally or civilly liable, if they fall prey to criminal solicitation of abortion. If they become victims of coercive abortion or abortion based on race, color or sex of their child, they could recover damages under state tort law, as well as damages for the homicide of their unborn child.

Systemic violations of abortion law could be prosecuted under the corrupt organization statute and persons harmed would have a private cause of action. Convicted abortionists could be sentenced to prison for one to ten years.

ACTION – Support. (1) Call Speaker Ralston at 404 656-5020 and ask him to allow the House to vote on S.B. 529 with NO amendments. (2) Ask your state representative to do the same and vote FOR S.B. 529, if the Speaker allows a floor vote. (3) Call Judiciary Committee Representatives Willard, Ch., 404 656-5125; Jacobs, 656-0152; Allison, 656-0177; Golick, 656-5943; Wilkinson, 656-8143; Bruce, 656-0314; Crawford, 656-0265; Dobbs, 656-7859; Hatfield, 656-0109; Lane, 656-5087; Lindsey, 656-5024; Maddox, 656-0109; McKillip, 656-0220; Nix, 656-0177; Oliver, 656-0265; O’Neal, 656-5103; Powell, 656-0177; Stephenson, 656-0126; Teilhet, 656-0568; and Weldon, 656-0152.

¹ For additional information contact Mike Griffin, Legislative Director, Georgia Right to Life, www.grtl.org or 706 436-2646.

Has the English-Only Bill Passed? Not Yet, But It Could!

For it to pass, the House must agree to the Senate amendment.

S.B. 67 has bounced through the legislative system since Senator Murphy introduced it January 29, 2009. It's a simple bill that would better protect motorists on Georgia roads by requiring applicants for driver's licenses to take both written and oral exams in English. Applicants for temporary licenses could be tested in a foreign language for a limited time. Then, they would be tested in English.

Background. S.B. 67 passed the Senate 37 – 14 on March 10, 2009 and went to the House Transportation Committee, but was transferred to the House Motor Vehicles Committee. There it was amended and passed onto the House floor for a vote, where it passed 104 – 58. Next, the Senate voted 22 – 22 to disagree with the House changes and the bill failed to pass in 2009.

This year's action began on March 30th when Senator Murphy amended his own bill by deleting 14 lines, but left the most important part. It states, "All written and oral examinations required pursuant to this Code section shall be administered only in the English language; provided, however, that the department may administer examinations to persons eligible for a temporary license pursuant to Code Section 40-521.1 in a language other than English."

ACTION – Support. Contact House Motor Vehicles Chairman Representative Tom Rice at 404 656-5912 and ask him to agree with the Senate amendment to S.B. 67, so it can pass this session.

Bill to Stop Medication Switching Passed Senate ... Needs House to Agree

H.B. 194 introduced by Representative Fran Millar January 29, 2009 could pass this session. It requires pharmacies to label the medicine bottle of any prescription that's switched from a brand to a generic, so the patient will be alerted to the change.

Both the brand name and the generic name of the drug product will appear on the label or an auxiliary label, along with an explanation of "generic for (insert name of brand name prescribed drug product)" or similar language to indicate a substitution. However, this provision will not apply to medication dispensed for in-patient hospital services or to medications in specialty packaging for dosing purposes as defined by the board.

This important issue surfaced when a constituent in his district contacted Representative Millar. She is a teacher and medical patient in Fayetteville, who explained to him the harm she endured as an unsuspecting victim of medication switching. Her seizure medicine was switched without asking her consent or warning her of the change or contacting her doctor to obtain his consent. Result: she suffered three seizures within seven days after being seizure-free for several years.

Background. Within days of its introduction last year, the House voted 165 – 0 to pass H.B. 194. Then, it languished in the Senate Health and Human Services Committee for exactly one year – February 11, 2009 until February 11, 2010. However, the bill was changed before the members voted it out of their committee.

On March 31, 2010 the substitute bill passed the Senate 46 – 0. Now, before the bill can pass, the House must agree to the change made in the Senate or the process becomes even more complicated. If it passes, H.B. 194 will become effective on October 1, 2010.

ACTION – Support. Call House Health and Human Services Chairman Cooper, 404 656-5069 and Representative Millar, 404 656-5064, and ask them to accept the Senate amendment to this bill.

“Legalizing illegal immigrants who escaped capture while crossing American borders is contrary to the basic principals of fairness and justice upon which this great country was founded.”

– S.R. 1395

Though it's late in the session, S.R. 1395 introduced by Senator John Wiles of Marietta could pass this year. For that to happen, voters must explain its importance to their senators and members of the Rules Committee. Since S.R. 1395 is a message from the Georgia Senate to national leaders, it is required to pass the Senate only. If it does, the Secretary of the Senate would send a copy to the President and each member of the Georgia congressional delegation.

An important part of S.R. 1395 is a reminder of two important statements by President Obama. This is from his January 27, 2010 State of the Union speech: “We *should* continue the work of fixing our broken immigration system – to secure our borders and enforce our laws, and ensure that everyone who plays by the rules can contribute to our economy and enrich our nation.”

Then, in his speech about unemployment on February 5, 2010 the President said, “We *can't* be satisfied when another 20,000 have joined their ranks and millions more Americans are underemployed, picking up what work they can.” (Emphasis added.)

His wording of both sentences is worth discussing. In the first comment, “...we *should*...” fix our broken immigration system, he didn't say, “we *would*” fix it. He made no promise. In his February 5, 2010 speech he chose to say, “we *can't* be satisfied,” instead of, “we *won't* be satisfied” – another non-committal statement. (Emphasis added.)

It's important to note that the United States has proudly accepted more legal immigration than any other nation in the world. However, legalizing illegal aliens who escaped capture while crossing American borders is contrary to the basic principals of fairness and justice – the foundation on which this country rests.

S.R. 1395 explains the urgency caused by illegal aliens and their indisputably negative impact on the nation and individual states. In addition to urging the securing of our national borders, the resolution encourages the rejection of all attempts to repeat the amnesty of 1986. No doubt, that legalization of 3 million illegal aliens 24 years ago intended to quell illegal immigration, but it didn't. It exacerbated the situation. Result: multiplied millions more have come illegally.

Current estimates of the illegal alien population in the U.S. are between 10 million and 20 million. An estimated 450,000 to 1 million are in Georgia, where they're provided benefits that drain state and local revenues and put enormous strain on service providers. However, the burden to taxpayers would grow exponentially if illegals were granted amnesty. The negative impact of legalizing 10 – 20 million illegal aliens would be inestimable and permanent.

S.R. 1395 recommendations: (a) Enforce American immigration laws and (b) return to serving the interests and needs of U.S. citizens, rather than aliens who break the law to come here.

ACTION – Support. Call Rules Committee Senators Balfour, Ch., 404 656-0095; Hamrick, 656-0036; Seabaugh, 656-6446; Adelman, 463-1376; Butler, 656-0075; Jack Hill, 656-5038; Hooks, 656-0065; Moody, 463-8055; Mullis, 656-0057; Pearson, 656-9221; Rogers, 463-1378; Shafer, 656-0048; Smith, 656-0034; Thomas, 656-6436; Tolleson, 656-0081; Unterman, 463-1368; and Williams, 656-0089.

Not Introduced, Yet: Amnesty for Illegal Aliens, Mandatory National ID

Proposed¹ By: Senator Schumer (D-NY) and Senator Graham (R-SC)

The Schumer/Graham steps-toward-citizenship plan allows 10 – 20 million illegal aliens to admit they broke the law to enter the U.S., perform community service, pay fines and back taxes, become proficient in English and line up for citizenship.

Components of Proposed Amnesty Ratchet-Up Displacement of American Workers

- Legalizes 10 – 20 Million Illegal Aliens Already in the U.S.
 - Mandates Biometric² ID Card for U.S. Citizens and Aliens Employed in the U.S.
 - Provides a Path to Admit Temporary Workers (*especially laborers lower skilled than illegals here*)
 - Gives Green Card to Emigrant PhD or Master's in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math
- “[T]he problem is not a lack of biometric ID cards for the serfs; it is the wide open Southern border and the unconstitutional incentives encouraging illegal immigration. The true solution to the illegal immigration crisis is to stop providing perks like welfare to law-breakers, and to properly police the border and defend the states from invasion. Why would adding an unconstitutional national ID scheme with biometric data make [amnesty] any more desirable?”*
- “Obama & Co. Want National Biometric ID,” by Alex Newman, April 2, 2010

Approval quickly came from President Obama, who promised to use all his power to push it.

Disapproval of amnesty was immediately voiced by House Immigration Reform Caucus Chairman Brian Bilbray (R-CA), “This so-called comprehensive immigration reform really means amnesty for the 10 to 20 million illegal immigrants in America today.”

Disapproval of biometric ID cards was reported by an ACLU spokesman, “We’re not only talking about fingerprinting every American, treating ordinary Americans like criminals in order to work. We’re also talking about a card that would quickly spread from work to voting to travel to pretty much every aspect of American life that requires identification.”

If a national ID card were required to work in the U.S., employers would be required to use an \$800 ID scanner to identify job applicants. The 10 – 20 million illegal aliens currently in the U.S. would be in line for citizenship if they do these four things: (1) admit to breaking the law to get here, (2) perform community service, (3) pay a fine and (4) catch up on their back taxes.

Senator Schumer and Senator Graham describe the national ID card as “a high-tech version of the Social Security card that citizens already have.” Also included in the proposal is a “rational system for admitting lower-skilled workers” and giving green cards (U.S. work cards) to post graduate immigrants who receive their PhDs or master’s degrees in science, technology, engineering or math from a university in the U.S.

Green card awards to foreign students are especially troubling, since student loans for college applicants who are U.S. citizens will be controlled, screened and awarded by the federal government, whose regulations will determine demographics of enrollment.

Purportedly, the biometric ID card would be fraud-proof with its use of a person’s fingerprints, retinal scans, or a map of veins on top of the hand. If this passes, employers who won’t use the scanning system to screen applicants could face fines or even prison if non-compliance persists.

¹ “The Right Way to Mend Immigration,” by Charles E. Schumer and Lindsey O. Graham, *Washington Post*, 3-19-10; A23

² Biometrics that may be used for ID card include fingerprints, retinal scans, veins atop hand.