

# Georgia insight

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

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## A Belated Easter Blessing

For your enjoyment, the words of a wonderful song, "On My Father's Side," written about the mother and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, are transcribed below. To experience its full impact, you may access it online.

### *On My Father's Side*

By The Barn Again Gang  
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*Just a young boy in the Temple, one day shared with the doctors.  
They were so amazed; never had they seen one so young speak so swift.  
They asked him many questions; the conversation went like this:*

*What's your name, son?*

*On my mother's side my name is Jesus, but on my Father's side they call me Emmanuel.*

*How old are you?*

*On my mother's side now I'm twelve years, but on my Father's side I've just always been.*

*Where are you from?*

*On my mother's side I'm from Bethlehem, but on my Father's side, it's New Jerusalem.*

*What is your plan?*

*On my mother's side, I'll be crucified.*

*But on my Father's side, in three days I'll arise and I'll sit at my Father's side.*

*He was the Son of God, yet the Son of Man;*

*But I can't help but wonder how Joseph must have felt.*

*Through an open door that day, he heard his son reply. He said,*

*You see I'm the King of Kings. That's on my Father's side.*

*On my mother's side my name is Jesus. They call me Emmanuel.*

*What's your name, son?*

*On my mother's side my name is Jesus,*

*But on my Father's side they call me Emmanuel.*

*How old are you?*

*On my mother's side now I'm twelve years,*

*But on my Father's side I've just always been.*

*Where are you from?*

*On my mother's side I'm from Bethlehem,*

*But on my Father's side, it's New Jerusalem.*

*What is your plan?*

*On my mother's side, I'll be crucified,*

*But on my Father's side, in three days I'll arise and I'll sit at my Father's side.*

## ***To be Handled in 2012: H.B. 630 Civil Rights Status for Sexual Orientation***

*If homosexual, bisexual and transgender behavior is elevated to a protected class, proponents of bigamy, pedophilia and other sexual practices will clamor for protected status, as well.*

**H.B. 630**, introduced March 31<sup>st</sup> by Representative Karla Drenner who obtained 70 co-signers before releasing it, was sent to the House Judiciary Committee, to be held for action in 2012.

H.B. 630 would prohibit the consideration of sexual orientation and gender identity in hiring Georgia public employees. Since “public employees” include public education and public day care, affirmative action quotas based on sexual behavior could be required for hiring and firing workers in tax-supported schools and daycare. Georgia laws would be changed as follows:

Code Section 45-19-21 would *promote* the hiring of public employees in all positions, wherever or however sensitive, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Code Section 45-19-27 would *require* the Commission on Equal Opportunity to handle complaints about sexual orientation and gender identity.

Code Section 45-19-29 would *render it illegal* to consider sexual orientation or gender identity when hiring or firing or determining compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges.

Code Section 45-19-30 would *prohibit* using sexual orientation or gender identity for hiring apprentices and training or re-training employees.

Code Section 45-19-31 would *prohibit* printed or published preferences or specifications or limits for employment, if such were based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Code Section 45-19-33 would *prohibit* different standards of compensation, terms or conditions of employment based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Code Section 45-19-35 allows the use of *affirmative action* to eliminate or reduce imbalance of employees based on sexual orientation and gender identity. “Imbalance” is not defined.

Code Section 45-20-1 *assures* fair treatment of applicants and employees based on sexual orientation and gender identity. “Fair treatment” is not defined.

Code Section 45-20-4 would *prohibit* the commissioner of personnel from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

The practical application of such a law has been demonstrated in Colorado since June 2008, when a bill passed to open “public facilities of any kind whether indoor or outdoor” to anyone, regardless of gender identity or “perception.” To that, Colorado Representative Amy Stephens said, “Lest we think that this is just the ‘bathroom bill,’ I’d like us also to realize that this really is about Christian businesspeople being able to practice their faith through their profession.”

**Note:** Federal and state constitutions equally protect everyone by “race,” “color,” and “sex.”

H.B. 630 would provide special protection for *sexual behaviors*, although behavior does not meet the protected class criteria – (1) history of longstanding, widespread discrimination, (2) economic disadvantage, and (3) immutable characteristics of race, color, sex and national origin. Those four groups and the fifth – religion – are, specifically, constitutionally protected. Adding “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” would include homosexual males and females, bisexuals and transgenders, whether “trans” is done surgically or by cross-dressing.

**ACTION – Oppose.** Contact House Judiciary Committee Representatives Willard, Ch., 404 656-5125; Jacobs, V-Ch., 404 656-0152; Allison, Sec., 404 656-0188; Golick, Ex-Officio, 404 656-5943; Bruce, 404 656-0314; Crawford, 404 656-0565; Dobbs, 404 656-7859; Evans, 404 656-6372; Hatfield, 404 656-0109; Lane, 404 656-5087; Lindsey, 404 656-5024; Maddox, 404 656-0152; McKillip, 404 656-0177; Nix, 404 656-0177; Oliver, 404 656-0265; O’Neal, 404 656-5052; Powell, 404 656-7856; Stephenson, 404 656-0126; Welch, 404 656-0109; and Weldon, 404 656-0152.

## ***How far will Georgia legislators go to affirm various sexual behaviors?***

### *The Step-by-Step Acceptance of Illicit Sex in Georgia*

*House Judiciary Committee Chairman.* On February 26, 2009 House Judiciary Chairman Representative Wendell Willard introduced H.B. 582 to decriminalize masturbation for hire and prostitution for opposite sex participants and same-sex participants *under 18*. H.B. 582 went into Representative Willard's committee, never surfaced and died when the 2010 session ended.

*Senate Health and Human Services Committee Chairman.* On January 12, 2010 the second day of the 2010 session, Senator Renee Unterman introduced S.B. 304 to decriminalize prostitution, masturbation for hire and pornography for anyone *under age 16* and deem them eligible for victim compensation funds. Her bill had a Judiciary Committee hearing (but no vote) and was on the agenda for a later committee meeting. Meanwhile, she moved her bill into the "unruly child" law, making illicit sex acts no more serious than skipping school. The next committee meeting was dismissed for lack of a quorum, so her bill never had a committee vote.

*Republican Majority Whip.* On February 9, 2011 Representative Ed Lindsey introduced his much-more-sophisticated H.B. 200 to amend sex crime laws in Georgia. His emphasis was on trafficking persons for labor or sexual servitude. So, H.B. 200 "threw the book" at panderers and pimps, as a smokescreen for his goal – decriminalizing prostitution, sodomy/solicitation for sodomy, masturbation for hire and pornography for anyone *under age 18* – to make them eligible for victim compensation. But H.B. 200 is more far-reaching than that. It provides "victim" status to ANYONE under age 18 that CHOOSES to make money *via ILLICIT SEX*.

Representative Lindsey's H.B. 200 passed the House 168-1, with five not voting and six excused. It passed the Senate 54-0, with two not voting. Meaning, anyone under 18 will *not* be charged for sex crimes and *will be eligible* for federal and state victim compensation funds.

*Attorney General of Georgia.* On April 10, 2011 the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* report entitled "Status of Bills in Final Week," said this: "H.B. 200 would toughen penalties for pimps and others in sex trafficking, especially those who exploit children for sex. *Part of legislative agenda for Attorney General Sam Olens.*" (Emphasis mine)

#### **ACTION – Oppose as follows:**

- (a) Call Governor Nathan Deal's Constituent Services number at 404 656-6300 and request that he veto H.B. 200.
- (b) Call Attorney General Sam Olens at 404 656-3300 to express disappointment for his support of H.B. 200.

## ***PASSED: H.B. 87, Illegal Immigration Reform & Enforcement Act of 2011***

### *Message from the Governor's Office: The Governor WILL Sign H.B. 87*

The dizzying legislative history of H.B. 87 began when Representative Matt Ramsey introduced it on January 27<sup>th</sup>. It went into the Non Civil Judiciary Committee where a committee substitute was written and favorably reported out of committee February 24<sup>th</sup>. During debate on the House floor, H.B. 87 was amended before it passed March 3<sup>rd</sup> and went it to the Senate. There, the Judiciary Committee watered it down, substantially, before reporting it out as a Committee Substitute March 31<sup>st</sup>. The weakened Senate version was amended again during debate on the Senate floor, where it passed April 11<sup>th</sup>, sending it back to the House. After instant rejection in the House, Representative Matt Ramsey replaced the Senate version with the original House bill and returned it to the Senate that, finally, accepted the House language. Both House and Senate passed H.B 87 on April 14<sup>th</sup> and it's now on the governor's desk, awaiting his signature.

## ***Encouragement from Arizona to Pass H.B. 87***

After passage of Arizona's S.B. 1070, the Arizona Senate Republican Caucus Communications Advisor reported good results this spring. (a) Arizona taxpayers had already saved over \$400 million in K-12 education. (b) Arizona had a first-time-in-state-history decline in the state prison population. (c) Violent crime rates dropped over three times the national average, while (d) 100,000 illegal aliens left the state and (e) more jobs were available for Americans.

### ***H.B. 87, Immigration Law, Georgia Style***

The last day of the session, H.B. 87 passed, strengthening Georgia immigration laws as follows:

**Georgia law enforcement** officials will work with federal immigration authorities to enforce federal and state immigration laws.

**Aliens** suspected of a crime and found to be illegal during an investigation will be transported, detained and arrested for illegal entry or for violating other federal immigration laws.

**Grants** from Homeland Security will annually fund training for ten or more state peace officers for use in the Secure Communities program or other immigration initiatives.

**Public employers**, including municipalities and counties, etc., will use E-Verify<sup>1</sup> to prove employment eligibility of all newly hired employees and contract only with contractors that use E-Verify to screen workers and subcontract and sub-subcontract with entities that do the same.

**Private employers** will use E-Verify as follows: Employers of 11-100 employees have until July 1, 2013 to verify the legal or illegal status of employees; employers of 500 or more must do the same by January 1, 2012; and employers of 100-500 must comply by July 1, 2012.

**Business licenses**, tax certificates and other documents will be issued only to applicants with proof they are authorized to use and actually DO use the federal work authorization program.

**Unacceptable documents.** A Matricula consular de Alta Seguridad, matricula consular card, consular matriculation card, consular identification card, or similar identification card issued by a foreign government, regardless of the holder's immigration status.

**Secure and verifiable documents.** The Attorney General will make available by August 1, 2011 a list of secure and verifiable documents that will be accepted as proof of alien status.

**Prisoners.** When foreign nationals are confined, for any period, in a county or municipal jail, reasonable efforts must be made to verify their immigration status.

**Illegal status.** If a foreign national cannot prove legal status, within 48 hours verification will be made through a federal agency.

**Custody.** Upon verification, illegal aliens may be detained, arrested and transported according to state and federal law.

**Funding for confinement.** Local governments may receive an added ten-percent in federal reimbursements to defray the cost of confining illegal aliens.

**Compliance** will be required, audits will be regular and violators will suffer the consequences.

<sup>1</sup> E-Verify is a free-of-charge Internet-based system for employers to use to determine the eligibility of employees to work in the U.S. It is operated by the Department of Homeland Security in partnership with the Social Security Administration.