
Illegal Students & Patients to be Counted

H.B. 296 introduced by Representative Josh Clark on February 22nd requires the following:

Education. The State Board of Education would collect and maintain citizenship data on K – 12 students and publish it on the state board's web site no later than January 1st each year. The report would include for each school district (a) the number illegal alien students in elementary and secondary education, (b) the number of illegal alien students who are unable to show proof of citizenship and (c) each school district's total expenditures for illegal aliens.

By October 1st each year, local school boards would report the number of illegal alien students enrolled in the district, as well as the number who do not provide proof of citizenship.

Health. The Department of Community Health (DOCH) would gather and maintain data on the number of illegal aliens receiving medical treatment, as well as those unable to show proof of citizenship. By October 1st each year, DOCH would collect from any hospital, health care facility, medical or skilled nursing home or other organization providing patient care the types and dates of treatment received by each patient, plus the cost and method of payment.

The DOCH would compile the data, calculate total expenditures, payments and non-payments by hospital and publish it on the department's web site no later than January 1st of each year.

ACTION – Support. Since this bill has not been assigned to a subcommittee, please contact the House Non Civil Judiciary Committee chairman, as well as the Non Civil Judiciary subcommittee chairmen. They are as follows: Representatives Golick, Ch., 404 656-5943; Sub-Com. Ch. Setzler, 404 656-0177; Sub-Com. Ch. Ramsey 404 656-7146

Sex Trafficking Bill Allows Prostitutes to Claim "Victim Status"

H.B. 200, introduced by Representative Ed Lindsey, passed the House and is in the Senate. It strengthens sex trafficking law, but removes penalties for prostitution, sodomy/solicitation for sodomy, masturbation for hire and pornography for individuals under age 18, if a sex act is "obtained" from them. Anyone over 18 so involved must prove "coercion" or "deception" for charges to be dropped against them, but those under 18 would not be charged, would be deemed victims and eligible for victim compensation, simply if such conduct is "obtained" from them.

H.B. 200 must be amended. As it's now written, it would be a step toward the international goal of redefining¹ sexually explicit conduct as "sex work," commercial sex, income-generating activity, respected jobs for women and men, a form of economic activity. That could put "sex work" in the mainstream debate on human rights for women and other workers at local, national and international levels, while simultaneously destroying the U.S. culture and moral fabric.

Make H.B. 200 acceptable. Amend page 2 line 62 by reducing age 18 to age 13. Otherwise, teens under 18 could choose sexually explicit conduct as a profession without legal interference.

ACTION – Ask the committee to reduce the age of 18 to age 13 on page two, line 62 to make the bill okay.

Senators Unterman, Ch., 404 463-1368, fax 404 651-6768; Carter, V-Ch., 404 656-5109, fax 404 657-3217; Goggans, Sec., 404 463-5263, fax 404 656-6484; Balfour, 404 656-0095, fax 404 656-6581; Judson Hill, 404 656-0150, fax 404 463-2535; Millar, 404 463-2260, no fax; Williams, 404 656-0089, fax 404 463-5220; Grant, 404 656-0082, fax 404 657-3248; Ligon, 404 656-0045, no fax; Henson, 404 656-0085, fax 404 651-7078; Jackson, 404 463-5261, fax 404 463-1388; Orrock, 404 463-8054, fax 404 657-7853; and Tate, 404 463-8053, fax 404 463-7783.

¹ See "Redefining Prostitution As Sex Work on the International Agenda," at www.walnet.org/csis/papers/redefining.html.

H.B. 476: Puts Georgia in the Insurance Business, Obama Style

State government would be expanded swiftly, stunningly and perpetually.

Installing a state insurance plan is premature, but, evidently, high level officials have their plan ready in H.B. 476. Meaning, Georgia is “prepared.” So, why act prematurely with a bill that sets the plan in motion July 1st? Why not set aside H.B. 476 and wait to act until the national issue is settled? Then comply with the results. Even if the court decides Obamacare must be implemented, the federal law allows one to two legislative sessions for states to comply.

H.B. 476 passed the House Insurance Committee March 9th and went to the Rules Committee and passed, positioning it for a vote on the House floor. On Friday, March 11th the author, Representative Richard Smith (R), informed this writer that the House floor vote would be on the 30th day of the session, Wednesday March 16th.

After saying he does not like Obamacare any more than I do, Mr. Smith admitted that H.B. 476 puts Georgia in the insurance business compliant with Obamacare. Then, he said we must “be prepared in case Obamacare is upheld in the courts.” I disagreed, explaining that I could not support his bill. He nodded, said he understands and agreed we could talk again.

The Georgia Health Exchange Authority would be established, effective July 1, 2011, and have “perpetual existence,” *i.e.* continuous uninterrupted succession. Nine appointees would govern it – the Commissioner of Community Health, the Authority Commissioner, plus seven members appointed by the Governor, whose designee would be executive director. Ex officio members – Office of Planning and Budget director, Governor’s executive counsel, Georgia Technology Authority executive director – will serve three years, with possible reappointment.

The Authority could elect/appoint/hire/define duties/fix compensation for employees and officers, experts and fiscal agents, and contract or lease as required or convenient. Funding may come from gifts, grants, loans/loan guarantees, property and financial or other aid from federal and state government agencies, regardless of accompanying terms and conditions. It would administer the **Georgia Health Exchange Trust Fund**, as a new item in the state treasury.

A **Georgia Health Exchange** would operate the state’s American Health Benefit Exchange, with power to sell health insurance compliant with Obamacare. Officially, it is the federal Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 with its rules and regulations. So, by January 1, 2014, Georgia’s Obamacare could seek funding from federal grants or other sources.

The **Small Business Health Options Program (SHOP) Exchange** would be created to comply with Obamacare, increase small employer enrollment in group insurance, and coordinate with other state agencies, including administrators of Social Security Title XIX and Title XXI.

An appointed **Exchange Advisory Committee** would develop the design, implementation and operation of the Exchange and the SHOP. Appointees would report to the board and Governor by November 15, 2011 their recommendations for: (a) increasing the numbers of people insured in the state, (b) developing competition in insurance, (c) making Georgia small business friendly, (d) keeping family members on the same plan, (e) promoting customer service, and (f) finding sustainable solutions, whether or not they are specifically part of the federal act.

ACTION – Oppose. Contact Governor Deal 404 656-1776; Lt. Governor Cagle 404 656-5030; Speaker Ralston 404 656-5020; Speaker Pro Tem Jan Jones 404 656-5072; Majority Whip Lindsey 404 656-5024; Rules Chairman Meadows 404 656-5141; Rules V-Chairman Golick 404 656-5943; Rules Secretary Mills 657-8441; Bearden 404 656-5096; Ehrhart, 404 463-2247; Franklin 404 656-0152; Hembree 404 656-6801; Rice 404 656-5912; Martin Scott 404 656-0254; Setzler 404 656-0177; T. Smith 404 656-5105; Teasley 404 656-0177; Walker 404 656-5146; Willard 404 656-5125.

Georgia Officials Reject Obamacare, But Will They Reject H.B. 476?

On January 31, 2011 the governor's office released the following statements from Georgia officials, who were elated after the Florida Court ruled Obamacare to be unconstitutional.

“At a news conference today, Georgia Governor Nathan Deal and Attorney General Sam Olens vowed to continue the state's lawsuit against Obamacare to the Supreme Court after a federal district court judge ruled the law unconstitutional.

“*Today marks a major victory for Georgia taxpayers and for all Americans concerned about the unconstitutional mandates in the Obamacare legislation,*” Deal said. “*As the ranking Republican on the health care subcommittee in the U.S. House, I was the first to say on the House floor that the individual mandate is unconstitutional. The federal government doesn't have the right to demand that Americans purchase a product. Today's ruling backs up that assertion. In fact, it goes even further by saying that the individual mandate is so inextricably linked to the overall bill that the entire law falls short of constitutional muster.*

“*Along with the great leadership of Attorney General Olens, I will continue to fight against this law because it bears too great a burden on Georgia taxpayers. This is an unfunded mandate that will cripple our state budget by flooding our Medicaid system.*”

“Although pleased with today's ruling, Olens knows there is a long road ahead.

“*I fully expect that this legal challenge by a majority of the states in our Union will go all the way to the United States Supreme Court,*” Olens said. “*But the issues at stake are too vital to do otherwise. This case is about protecting our Constitution, which limits the powers of the federal government, and protecting Georgia taxpayers from the overwhelming costs the law would impose.*”

“U.S. Representative Lynn Westmoreland (R-Ga.), who voted to repeal Obamacare last week, joined the governor and attorney general at today's news conference at the state Capitol.

“*I hope today's ruling encourages Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to do the right thing and bring up our repeal legislation in the Senate,*” Westmoreland said. “*There's a growing consensus that this bill is unconstitutional. The Senate should do the right thing, scrap this law and start over with common sense reforms that will expand access to high-quality health care without violating the rights of every American and bankrupting states.*”

“Georgia is assisted in its efforts in this litigation by a team of pro-bono attorneys working at no cost to the state. The team includes: Frank C. Jones, Michael C. Russ, Benton J. Mathis, Jr., Jason Alloy, John H. Parker, Jr., W. Pitts Carr, David G. Oedel and Joshua B. Belinfante.”

- The above officials oppose federal Obamacare, but might support H.B. 476. See page two.
- H.B. 476 would establish a *state* socialized health insurance. Obama's plan is *federal*.
- H.B. 476 *does not appear to mandate* the purchase of health insurance, but the Exchange would work to multiply the number insured. Possible methods of multiplying are not listed.
- H.B. 476 creates State health insurance that could endanger the free enterprise system.
- It requires Georgia to create various new state agencies to provide and sell health insurance.
- Could private insurance companies survive when the State goes into the insurance business?

Volunteer Lobbyists NOT Required to Register

H.B. 232 Passed the House 158 – 3, February 22, 2011; Passed the Senate 39 – 13, March 11, 2011
The “Ethics in Government Act” was revised in 2010, leaving volunteer lobbyists wondering whether to pay a \$300 fee and register with the state before discussing issues with legislators at the Capitol, or elsewhere, or risk being regularly fined \$1,000.

H.B. 232 introduced February 10th by Representative Ed Lindsey provided clarification. It defines a lobbyist as anyone (a) specifically compensated for promoting or opposing legislation, ordinances, resolutions or promoting their approval or veto or who (b) spends over \$1,000 per year to promote or oppose such, not including travel, food, lodging or informational material.

Part-time: Individuals spending over 10 percent of their working time in such activities should register. But those spending less than 10 percent of their work time for an employer or client engaged in lobbying would NOT be required to register as lobbyists. When applying the 10 percent test, time for planning, researching, or preparing for lobbying would be counted.

Employee, agent or independent contractor: Anyone hired or retained as an employee or agent or independent contractor to work primarily or substantially in lobbying activities must register as a lobbyist before commencing lobbying activities.

Homosexuality to be Promoted in Schools April 15, 2011

Q. How is a day of silence allowed in Georgia schools,

despite a Georgia law allowing students only one minute of silence during the school day?

Last year’s “day of silence” was scheduled for April 16th and advertised on Facebook, Twitter and MySpace, encouraging students to use the 19-page *Day of Silence Organizing Manual* to organize and register school plans to celebrate lesbian, gay, bisexual transgender lifestyles.

In 2002 Georgia participants included 15 high schools and 5 colleges. By 2007, 37 Georgia high schools had gay-straight clubs that promote alternate lifestyles and homosexual projects, such as a day of silence. Since then, GLSEN has been less open with school participation lists.

The Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN) sponsors the day of silence, that began in 1996 at the University of Virginia and went nationwide in 1997. The homosexual firm, Lambda Legal, provides students with Q & A sheets, documenting their right NOT to speak, while emphasizing their right to wear buttons or T-shirts supporting homosexual lifestyles and have in-school exhibits, such as posters and other pro homosexual materials.

In 2001 *The Sticks and Stones Project* began in Georgia as a “Making Schools Safe” training workshop that, in effect, promoted student gag orders against criticism of alternate lifestyles.

In January 2010 GLSEN and the National Association of Elementary School Principals published *No Name-Calling Week, Elementary Lesson Plans* to keep the focus on bullying. The Georgia bullying law applies equally to everyone and does not specify any particular group.

This year, on February 14, 15, 16 a “National Conference on Bullying” was held in Orlando, Florida. Confirmed speakers included Kevin Jennings, who is the “Safe Schools Czar” and the founder of GLSEN. One topic was “Liability 101 – Will You or Your District be Sued Next?”

ACTION – Contact the school and explain that the day of silence is planned for April 16. School officials might not be aware of it, since students and teachers register schools on the Internet. Remind school officials of the Georgia law that authorizes only one minute of silence per day. Then, suggest that the day of silence be observed during that same minute of silence on April 16. There is no legal authorization for any student or teacher to refuse to speak during school.

Georgia Insight is a conservative publication financed entirely by its recipients.