

Georgia insight

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

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Conservative Legislators, Wake Up, Wake Up, Wherever You Are!

If this were a public address system, I'd say, "Testing, testing, testing. Can you hear me now?" But this is politics, and I'll say the same to legislators, "Testing, testing, testing. *Can you hear me now?*" Most ran as conservatives and led voters to think they would serve as conservatives, but they didn't explain to voters how they define conservative.

Fiscally conservative individuals make conservative decisions about money. However, many candidates don't reveal whether they are fiscally conservative or socially conservative or neither or both. So, voters believe candidates they worked hard to elect would pass laws to remedy the many moral problems, as well as spend tax money wisely. Sadly, voters soon learn pseudo conservatives have no intention of challenging liberal morality.

To their credit, the 2005 legislature, finally, passed a bill requiring parental input in minors' abortion decisions and a 24-hour waiting period, but *refused* to uphold parental rights to guide children's decisions in other life-changing matters. The 2004 legislature passed a same-sex marriage ban that voters approved overwhelmingly, but for *four years* legislators have refused to pass a bill requiring parental permission for children to join school clubs, some of which *promote* lifestyles that *feed the demand* for same-sex marriage defeated by voters. Legislators pass bills to protect teens from traffic accidents, but tiptoe around bills that support family authority and community values. You'd think a bill affirming English as our official language would be a slam-dunk, but not so. Every time such a bill is introduced in Georgia, it's killed.

Incredibly, many lawmakers resist passing laws against illegal aliens and, just as incredibly, governmental higher-ups prohibit law enforcement officers from enforcing many laws already on the books. Since some legislators admit, howbeit after the fact, they run as conservatives but govern in the middle, conservatives who believe candidates' campaign promises are left with *no* representation and nowhere to turn when their lobbying efforts fall on deaf ears.

State representatives, state senators and U.S. House members serve two-year terms. U.S. Senators serve six-year terms. When officials run as conservatives and govern in the middle, liberalism continues forging ahead unhindered and conservative voters, who are actually in the majority, are treated as disposable and dismissed as the radical right wing *fringe* of society.

Unless conservative officials want conservative voters to boycott the 2006 election, they would be wise to pass the good bills left in committee last session. Conservatives that believed all those speeches are *still* watching and waiting for legislators to fulfill their many promises.

Bills that were introduced in 2005, but never made it out of committee, are *still* alive and waiting to pass. Representatives and senators that claim to be conservative should *actually do the people's business and pass them*. That's why they were elected. If conservatives wanted the status quo to continue, they would have elected candidates who admitted they were liberal. Pages three and four are filled with some of those *good* 2005 bills that should pass in 2006.

Did-You-Knows You Need to Know

Did you know why illegal aliens change jobs every three months? It takes about 90 days for their employers to learn they have no legal Social Security number. Did you know the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials (GALEO) on Peachtree Street in Atlanta is working hard to repeal laws against illegal entry and pass laws giving illegal aliens *every* benefit of U.S. citizenship? Did you know state Senator Sam Zamarríppa of District 36 is chairman of GALEO and District 96 Representative Pedro Marin is vice-chairman? Did you know both are working to (a) elect enough Latino legislators to pass pro-illegal-aliens bills? Did you know GALEO has (b) a state-wide Latino/Hispanic legislative agenda? Did you know GALEO (c) prefers federal legislation over state laws so all laws affecting illegal aliens will be identical and the (d) entire country will be a welfare haven for illegal aliens?

Did you know GALEO is the Georgia branch of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) that's working for the same thing, but on a grander, national scale? Did you know illegal aliens openly lobby legislators at the state capitol? Did you know a metro Atlanta American citizen lobbyist asked me to schedule a special lobby training class at the capitol for Hispanics? When asked, "Are they *legal*?" The answer was, "Most are." I refused.

On November 4th I attended a Cobb County Town Hall Meeting at Kennesaw University to hear a nine-member panel discuss U.S. immigration policy. Its sponsors were Kennesaw State University Center for Hispanic Studies, the Georgia Association of Latino Elected Officials and the *Governor's Latino Coalition for a New Georgia*.

Three of the panelists want to enforce U.S. and state laws. Six don't. The audience included many Latino students from the college, but audience reaction was about 50/50. The three pro-U.S. panelists were corrected for using the term illegal aliens and were told the correct term is "undocumented immigrants." But, Phil Kent who's the national spokesman for Americans for Immigration Reform was quick to say, "They're *not* undocumented. They're *loaded* with documents," referring to the many forged documents available for a price in metro Atlanta.

Several panelists had heavy Latino accents, but managed to convey their disdain for U.S. laws, especially laws making employers accountable for hiring illegal aliens. Most of the panelists took pot shots at Senator Chip Rogers for introducing bills requiring proof of citizenship from applicants for social services and college enrollment. John Konop, running for congress in the sixth district, kept saying, "We're running out of money! Eighty percent of wages have gone flat and health care costs are out of sight!" facts totally lost on illegal-alien sympathizers.

After two hours, no opinions had changed, but some disturbing facts emerged. GALEO and NALEO are working to elect enough Latinos to tilt legislatures, commissions and councils toward passage of policies for unlimited entry into the U.S., unlimited social services for all that come and a right to vote in all elections, regardless of citizenship. They oppose all *state* laws restricting illegal aliens and are lobbying Congress to pass *federal* laws to transcend state laws and give open access to the entire country, its benefits and privileges, regardless of mode of entry. GALEO is crisscrossing the state, drumming up support for its positions, focusing primarily on Latinos and sympathizers in colleges and universities. Their arguments are based on emotion rather than fact. That was proven by an astonishing statement from a pro-illegal-alien panelists who said, "Don't listen to the facts. They're not true!" What an oxymoron!

Bills affecting Illegal Aliens: Introduced in 2005 Need to Pass in 2006

Only U.S. Citizens would be Awarded Public Work Contracts

Senator Chip Rogers introduced **S.B. 169** requiring public work contracts to be awarded only to citizens or nationals of the U.S. It, also, requires proof of citizenship or legal immigration documentation for workers hired for such projects.

This bill went to the State and Local Governmental Operations Committee, chaired by Senator Wiles. There was *zero* committee action on it, although voters who support the provisions of this bill far out-number the employers and chambers of commerce members that oppose it.

ACTION-Support. Contact¹ State & Local Governmental Operations Senators Wiles, Ch., 404 657-0406, john@johnwiles.com; Mullis, V-Ch., 656-0057, jmullis@legis.state.ga.us; Weber, Sec., 463-2260, djweber@bellsouth.net

Proof of Legal Domicile or Legal Residency required for Benefits

S.B. 170 is another of Senator Chip Rogers' bills. It requires applicants for social services to declare their country of citizenship and creates a procedure for the Department of Motor Vehicle Safety to verify all claims of legal domicile or residency. It, specifically, stipulates that anyone *unlawfully in this country* in violation of federal immigration laws *is not legally resident or domiciled* in Georgia.

If this passes, U.S. Homeland Security Systematic Alien Verification of Entitlement (SAVE) program must *verify the legality of applicants for state or local benefits*. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security Law Enforcement Support Center (LESC) must verify the status of anyone arrested for crimes. Knowingly presenting a personal I.D. from a foreign government as proof of legal residence or domicile would be a misdemeanor.

Senator Kemp's Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee kept this bill in committee during 2005, but it needs to be passed in 2006. It's a matter of state and national security.

ACTION-Support. Contact Senators Kemp, Ch., 404 463-1366, bkemp@legis.state.ga.us; Mullis, V-Ch., 656-0057, jmullis@legis.state.ga.us; Chapman, Sec., 656-0045, jchapman@legis.state.ga.us

Colleges would ask Students' Country of Citizenship

Another of Senator Rogers' bills, **S.B. 171**, requires students enrolling in Georgia's University System to reveal their country of citizenship. It was assigned to the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee, chaired by Senator John Wiles, where it remains. The current situation of "don't ask, don't tell" your citizenship allows illegal aliens to get in-state tuition, while out-of-state U.S. citizens who enroll in Georgia colleges and universities must pay out-of-state tuition. How can anyone say it's fair to favor illegal aliens over U.S. citizens?

ACTION-Support. Contact State and Local Governmental Operations Senators Wiles, Ch., 404 657-0406, john@johnwiles.com; Mullis, V-Ch., 656-0057, jmullis@legis.state.ga.us; Weber, Sec., 463-2260, djweber@bellsouth.net

Prohibitions affecting Illegal Aliens

H.R. 256 by Representative Roger Williams amends the state constitution to prohibit illegal aliens from receiving public services, licenses or permits provided by the state or its political subdivisions. Schools would have to verify the legal status of students. Penalty for *making, distributing or selling* fraudulent documents to conceal true citizenship would be five years in prison or a fine. Penalty for *using* such documents would be a year in prison or a fine. There was *no* action on this in Representative Williams' Intragovernmental Cooperation Committee.

ACTION-Support. Contact Intragovernmental Cooperation Committee Representatives Williams, Ch., 404 656-3904, wroger@optilink.us; Lane, V-Ch., 404 656-5115; and Coan, Sec., 404 656-6801

¹ Action on pages 3 and 4 lists numbers for committee officers only. Other committee members are not listed.

Want More Protection For Children? Get These 2005 Bills Passed In 2006

Protect Children from Aggravated Sodomy

H.B. 13, introduced by Representative Bearden, raises the age of consent for sodomy from ten years to 12. If this passes, anyone convicted of aggravated sodomy with a victim under 12 years of age could be sentenced to death, life in prison, or 10 to 30 years in prison. The death penalty is not allowed under current law, regardless of the victim's age. H.B. 13 is alive and remains in Representative Ralston's House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee awaiting action.

ACTION-Support. Contact Judiciary Non-Civil Committee Representatives Ralston, Ch., 404 656-5943, dralston1@tds.net; Mumford, V-Ch., 656-0254; Setzler, Sec., 656-0126, lesetzler@mactec.com

Parental Permission for School Club Membership

S.B. 149 and H.B. 661 require parental (a) *notification* of all school clubs and extracurricular activities and specific (b) *permission* for students to join each. Senator Nancy Schaefer carried S.B. 149 and Representative Bobby Reese introduced H.B. 661 to bring clubs and extracurricular activities under the same parental permission mandate other school-related events require. S.B. 149 was tabled and remains in the Senate Education & Youth Committee and H.B. 661 was tabled and left in the House Education Academic/Support Subcommittee.

ACTION – Support. (1) **S.B. 149:** Contact Senate Education and Youth Committee Senators Moody, Ch., 404 463-8055, dmoody@legis.state.ga.us; Carter, V-Ch., 463-1363, joseph@josephcarter2004.com; Don Thomas, Sec., 656-6436, dthomas@legis.state.ga.us

(2) **H.B. 661:** Contact House Education Academic/Support Subcommittee Representatives Maxwell, Ch., 656-3904, hmaxwell@legis.state.ga.us; Dickson, V-Ch./Sec., 656-0202

Parental Notification for Minor's Birth Control and Health Referrals

H.B. 566 by Representative Loudermilk requires parental notification before unemancipated minors are referred for family planning services or birth control. An "*unemancipated minor*" is "any person under the age of 18 who is not or has not been married or who is under the care, custody, and control of such person's parent or parents, guardian, or the juvenile court of competent jurisdiction." *Georgia considers sexually active minors as emancipated, i.e., free from parental authority.* This bill remains in the Health and Human Services Committee.

ACTION-Support. Contact House Health and Human Services Committee Representatives Cooper, Ch., 404 463-8142; Rynders, V-Ch., 656-0109, erynders@bellsouth.net; Carter, Sec., 656-0213, bcart331@aol.com

Feticide Law Amended to Protect from Conception to Birth

H.B. 243 amends feticide law to affect the unborn from conception. Current law applies after the unborn is "quick". This defines the unborn as a child at any stage of development within the womb and distinguishes between premeditated action and involuntary manslaughter. Manslaughter would be punishable by one to 20 years in prison. Premeditation could bring a life sentence. If a "cooling off" period occurs between the provocation and the baby's death, the incident would be judged as deliberate revenge, punishable as feticide and life in prison. Introduced by Representative Burmeister, it's *still* in the Non-Civil Judiciary Committee.

ACTION-Support. Contact several Judiciary Non-Civil Committee Representatives Ralston, Ch., 404 656-5943, dralston1@tds.net; Mumford, V-Ch., 656-0254; Setzler, Sec., 656-0126, lesetzler@mactec.com

Only One Passenger if Driver has Learner's License

H.B. 256 by Representative Joe Wilkinson would allow only one non-family passenger in a vehicle whose driver uses a learner's permit. It's in the Motor Vehicles Committee for 2006.

ACTION-Support. Contact House Motor Vehicles Representatives Rice, Ch., 404 656-5912, www.tomrice.org; Dollar, V-Ch., 656-0254, mdollar@legis.state.ga.us; Bearden, Sec., 656-0287, bearden4house68@aol.com

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