



YOUR EYES & EARS IN STATE GOVERNMENT

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2019 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE!

February 1, 2019

HATE CRIME LEGISLATION- UNNECESSARY!

SUBJECT: Once again there is an attempt in the General Assembly to pass **hate crime legislation** that would treat **certain categories** of individuals as being worth more than other Hoosiers. This is not right! All individuals should be treated the same! Additionally, courts presently have the authority to enhance a criminal penalty based on certain circumstances. Be watching for more information on this unnecessary and dangerous legislation in the General Assembly!

ACTION: If you believe that all Hoosiers should be treated the same in Indiana, then you can contact your State Senator and State Representative with the following message: "Please vote No on any hate crime legislation that treats Hoosiers differently." State Senate: 1-800-382-9467. House of Representatives: 1-800-382-9842.

PROTECTING CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS!

BILL: Senate Bill 344

AUTHOR: Senator J.D. Ford

SUBJECT: SB 344 would greatly harm the freedom Christian schools now have who accept a student with a school voucher. Under the provisions of SB 344, a Christian school would be forced to hire someone regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. This means that a Christian school among other things would be forced to hire an individual who is a biological male who says he is now a female. The bill would also force the Christian school to hire someone who is not a Christian. Additionally, the Christian school would be forced to admit a

student who is not a heterosexual or believes they are a different sex. This means that the Christian school could not refuse to admit a biological boy who says he is now a girl. This would also mean that the biological boy would also have access to the girls' restroom and girls' locker room in the public school. Senate Bill 344 is not only harmful to the Christian school, but it is also harmful to the children at the Christian school.

ACTION: If you support the current freedom for Christian schools including the right to hire teachers and staff that agree with the Bible; and to admit students that agree with Biblical standards for sexuality; then you need to contact your State Senator with the following message: "Please vote No on SB 344 to protect the freedom Christian schools now have with regard to hiring teachers and staff, and with regard to admitting students who follow Biblical guidelines." State Senate: 1-800-382-9467.

PROTECTING PARENTAL RIGHTS!

BILL: Senate Bill 284

AUTHOR: Senator Mark Stoops

SUBJECT: SB 284 is a bill that is very harmful to children and teenagers. If a child or a teenager is struggling with homosexuality, a counselor should be able to help them understand the benefit of living a heterosexual lifestyle. SB 284 would prohibit a psychologist or other mental health counselor from helping a child or teenager know the truth about homosexuality and the benefits of heterosexuality. The bill would also prohibit a mental health professional from helping a child or teenager who is struggling with whether they are a boy or girl.

For example, SB 284 would prohibit a biological boy who is struggling with believing he might be a girl from receiving help in accepting the fact he is really a boy and not a girl. SB 284 is really an attack on Christian counseling.

ACTION: If you believe that a mental health professional should be able to help a child or teenager who is struggling with homosexuality; or who is struggling with knowing what sex they really are, then you can contact your State Senator with the following message: "Please vote No on SB 284 so that children and teenagers can continue to receive help with regard to homosexuality and with regard to understanding what sex they are." State Senate: 1-800-382-9467.

PROTECTING CHURCHES FROM GOVERNMENT CONTROL!

SUBJECT: Churches in Indiana are **currently free** to operate their various ministries **without** government control. Churches are of course required to meet fire codes and sanitation requirements. But the government should **not** be able to tell a church **who** they can hire, **what** they can teach and **how** they operate! This includes **all** of the ministries of the church including: Vacation Bible School, day camp, Sunday school, Christian school, etc. Unfortunately, some legislators want to **take away** this freedom churches have enjoyed for generations! **Advance America** will continue to **lead** the effort at the State House to protect churches!

PARENTAL CHOICE IN EDUCATION!

SUBJECT: In 2011 Indiana passed the **most expansive** school choice law in the Nation. Every **child** deserves the **opportunity** to get a first-class education and every **parent** deserves the **opportunity** to be able to choose where their child will be educated so they can **succeed** in life. That's what **school**

choice is all about. Advance America supported the original legislation in 2011 and **supports expanding** the current school choice law so **more parents** can choose where to educate their child.

ADVANCE AMERICA!

Advance America is Indiana's **largest pro-family and pro-church** organization founded in 1980. Advance America is a non-partisan organization and does not endorse any candidate or any political party. Advance America is **dedicated** to giving Hoosiers information about what is going on in their state government and what they can do to **make a difference** on those issues of importance to them and their family. For more info go to www.AdvanceAmerica.com.

TEXT OF BILLS AVAILABLE!

The complete text of a bill or resolution can be accessed at:
<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2019/bills/>.

NEW PROUD HOOSIER PARTNERSHIP BOOK!

Go to our website at www.AdvanceAmerica.com and view the Proud Hoosier Partnership Video. You can also find out more about the book written by Eric Miller, "*The Proud Hoosier 2019 Resource Book*."

WHO ARE YOUR LEGISLATORS?

If you don't know who your State Senator and State Representative are, go to our website at www.AdvanceAmerica.com and click on "Who Are My Elected Officials?" You can also call your County Clerk's Office.

"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

-Edmund Burke

Contributions are Needed and Appreciated!

In order to continue to serve as the eyes and ears for the families and churches of Indiana, Advance America depends on the **tax deductible contributions** of individuals, families, and businesses around the state. Advance America receives **NO** government money. Your contribution of \$35, \$50 \$100 or more will help us pay our expenses throughout 2019. Follow this link to make a contribution: <https://www.advanceamerica.com/contribute/> or individuals can mail their contribution to Advance America at 101 W. Ohio Street, Suite 660; Indianapolis, IN 46204.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

House of Representatives: 800-382-9842 and 317-232-9600 | State Senate: 800-382-9467 and 317-232-9400 | Governor: 317-232-4567 Lt. Governor: 317-232-4545
Please let us know about any response you receive from your legislator. You can find out who your legislators are and get their email address by going to www.AdvanceAmerica.com.