



2019 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE!

March 6, 2019

## **PROTECTING CHILDREN & PARENTAL RIGHTS!**

**BILL:** Senate Bill 266

**AUTHOR:** Senator Mike Crider

**SPONSOR:** Representative Tony Cook

**SUBJECT: Parents** are responsible for raising children – not the government! Senate Bill 266 would give the government **unprecedented control** over all children in Indiana – **beginning at birth!** SB 266 orders state government to create a plan to track all children beginning at birth for social, emotional and mental health issues. The result would be **to label** potentially tens of thousands of children – beginning at birth – as not being normal and in need of social, emotional and mental health services and treatment. SB 266 also attempts to deceive parents and taxpayers by stating parental consent is required before: 1) a child can be subjected to a mental health survey, assessment, evaluation, etc., or 2) referred for or receive mental health services or treatment, or 3) before confidential information in a child's school file can be released. Unfortunately, the reality is that if any of these three things occur **without parental consent**, the parents can **only** complain to the Department of Education who can decide to **do nothing** to the school that violated parental rights. Language giving parents the right to sue the school was **stripped from the bill**. More information on SB 266 can be found under the download section of our website at [www.advanceamerica.com](http://www.advanceamerica.com).

**STATUS:** Senate Bill 266 passed the Senate on February 26, 2019 by a vote of 29-20 and now awaits action in the House of Representatives. To see how your Senator voted, go to the download section at [www.AdvanceAmerica.com](http://www.AdvanceAmerica.com).

**ACTION:** Senate Bill 266 is **very harmful** to the children and parents of Indiana. If you believe parents are responsible for raising their children and not the government, then you need to contact your State Representative with the following message: "Please vote NO on Senate Bill 266 and

any other similar bills. Parents are responsible for raising their children and not the government. Please help protect the children and the parents." House of Representatives: 1-800-382-9842

## **ABORTION!**

**BILL:** House Bill 1211

**AUTHOR:** Representative Peggy Mayfield

**SPONSOR:** Senator Liz Brown

**SUBJECT:** House Bill 1211 would ban dismemberment abortions in the second trimester or later unless there is a serious health risk to the mother. This procedure was called barbaric during a hearing on House Bill 1211.

**STATUS:** House Bill 1211 passed the House of Representatives on February 21, 2019 by a vote of 71-25 and now awaits action in the Senate. To see how your Representative voted go to the download section at [www.AdvanceAmerica.com](http://www.AdvanceAmerica.com).

**ACTION:** If you support banning dismemberment abortions in the second trimester or later, contact your State Senator with the following message: "Please vote YES on House Bill 1211 to stop dismemberment abortions."

State Senate: 1-800-382-9467

## **HATE CRIMES!**

**BILL:** Senate Bill 12

**AUTHOR:** Senator Mike Bohacek

**SPONSOR:** Representative Greg Steuerwald

**SUBJECT:** Once again there is an attempt in the General Assembly to pass hate crime legislation. Senate Bill 12 was amended in the Senate so that **all individuals** who are victims of a crime would be treated **the same**. This is in line with current Indiana law.

**STATUS:** Senate Bill 12 passed the Senate on February 21, 2019 by a vote of 39-10 and now awaits action in the House of Representatives. To see how your Senator voted, go to the download section of [www.AdvanceAmerica.com](http://www.AdvanceAmerica.com).

**ACTION:** If you support treating all individuals who are victims of a crime the same, contact your

State Representative with the following message:  
"Please vote YES on Senate Bill 12 **"as is"** so all Hoosiers who are victims of a crime are treated equally."

House of Representatives: 1-800-382-9842

### PROTECTING CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS!

**SUBJECT:** Christian schools are presently free in Indiana to operate according to the Bible. Some members of the General Assembly want to take this freedom away. On February 21, 2019 Representative Dan Forestal offered **Amendment #41 to House Bill 1001**. This Amendment would have **forced Christian schools** to hire teachers regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The Amendment would also **force Christian schools** to admit students regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity or religion. The Amendment was defeated 30-62. There will no doubt be other efforts to harm the freedom Christian schools now have in Indiana. By the way, if the government can tell a Christian school how to operate, they can tell a **church** as well!

**STATUS:** To see how your Representative voted on Amendment #41 to harm the freedom Christian schools now have, go to the download section of [www.AdvanceAmerica.com](http://www.AdvanceAmerica.com).

**ACTION:** If you believe that Christian schools should **continue to be free** to operate without government control, contact your Senator and Representative with the following message:  
"Please vote against any amendment or any bill that would harm the current freedom Christian schools now have to operate including the right to hire their own teachers and staff and to admit students according to Biblical guidelines."  
State Senate: 1-800-382-9467  
House of Representatives: 1-800-382-9842

### PROTECTING CHURCHES FROM GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND TAXATION!

**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 from government control and taxation!

### 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.AdvanceAmerica.com).