



## 2008 Legislative Priorities

### MARRIAGE

#### Pass Divorce Reform

- **Mutual Consent (SB 725 - Senator Ken Cuccinelli)** – requires that both parties consent to a no-fault divorce when children are involved – *Left in Senate Courts committee*
- **1% TANF to Marriage Education (HB 871, Delegate Joe Johnson)** – allows at least 1 percent of excess Temporary Assistance for Needy Family funds to be dispersed to marriage education programs – *Passed House 99-0; Passed Senate 40-0; Signed by Governor*
- **Marriage License Fee (stricken)** – increases fee for a marriage license and disperses the funds to marriage education programs; waives fee if couple participates in a pre-counseling marriage education program

#### Defeat Homosexual Agenda

- Adding “sexual orientation” to the state’s employment non-discrimination laws – *Defeated all bills*
- Expanding domestic partner benefits - *Defeated*

### RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

#### Pass Student Religious Viewpoint Anti-Discrimination Act – HB 1135 (Delegate William Fralin) – *Passed House 83-15; Passed Senate 39-1*

- Legislation that will protect the rights of public school students in Virginia to express their religious viewpoints in classroom assignments, etc.

### CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

#### Responsible Reform of Payday Lending – HB 12 (Delegate Glenn Oder) – *Passed House 91-9; Passed Senate 37-2-1*

- Compromise legislation that limits number of loans per person per year, changes fee structure, requires cooling off period between loans

#### Pass 65 Percent Solution – HB 60 (Delegate Jeff Frederick) – *Defeated in House Finance Committee*

- Requires public schools to spend at least 65 percent of their resources in the classroom
- Reduces spending on administrative services

#### Defeat Gambling Expansion – SB 597 (Senator Tommy Norment) – *Defeated in House General Laws Committee; Passed Senate 23-14-1*

- Legislation that would expand gambling by allowing for historical horse racing slot machines at Colonial Downs and off-track betting sites

### PARENTAL AUTHORITY

#### Pass Education/Parent Choice Legislation

- **HB 1164 (Delegate Chris Saxman)**- Legislation that will provide tax relief for individuals and corporations that donate to scholarship programs and public schools – *Passed House 50-48-1; Defeated in Senate Finance Committee 3-11*

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- **HB 420 (Delegate Bob Marshall)** – Tuition tax credit for families that choose to send their children to non-public schools – *Defeated in House Finance Committee*

**Pass Mental Health Information to Parents – HB 121 (Delegate Scott Lingamfelter)** – *Passed House 88-10; Defeated in Senate Ed and Health 11-3*

- Requires state run health clinics to notify parents when their children seek medical attention for a mental health needs as allowed by federal law

**Fund Abstinence Education Programs – Defeated in Senate**

- Reinstate funding for abstinence education programs recently cut by Governor Kaine

**Pass legislation barring abortion providers from public schools – SB 542 (Senator Mark Obenshain); HB 1538 (Delegate Brenda Pogge); Defeated in House Ed Committee; Defeated in Senate Ed and Health Committee 10-4**

- Abortion providers like Planned Parenthood benefit financially from their access to public school students when they contract to teach sex education or other programs
- This legislation would prohibit organizations that perform abortions from contracting with public schools to provide any educational or health related services

**Defeat Governor Kaine’s Universal Preschool Program – limited funds in budget compromise**

- The NEA has long sought to create mandatory “Pre-K” programs to force families to send their 2, 3, and 4 year olds to government schools. Governor Kaine’s program would begin as volunteer, but would likely become mandatory in time

**Defeat FLE Curriculum Change to Comprehensive Sex Education – SB 155 (Senator Don McEachin) – Defeated in Senate 22-17**

- Would have changed Virginia’s family life education standard from abstinence based to comprehensive sex ed
- Planned Parenthood’s highest legislative priority

## LIFE

**Legislation Improving Informed Consent**

**Ultra Sound Requirement – HB 1315 (Delegate Kathy Byron)** – *Passed House 62-37; Defeated in Senate Ed and Health 11-4*

- Require abortion providers to perform an ultrasound and require them to inform woman of their right to review the ultrasound
- Require Health Dept. Informed Consent materials to include ultrasound information

**Fetal Pain Relief – HB 1556 (Delegate Ben Cline)** – *Passed House 68-31; Defeated in Senate Ed and Health 10-5*

- Require information in Informed Consent law to include fetal pain information

**Pass Abortion Clinic Safety Reporting and Standards – HB 894 (Delegate Matt Lohr)** – *Passed House 60-37; Defeated in Senate Ed and Health 10-5*

- Currently, abortion clinics are regulated like physician offices, despite the fact that these offices perform invasive surgery, where 10 percent the women who undergo an abortion suffer immediate complications.
- Require abortion clinics to be regulated as outpatient surgery centers

**Ban State Funding of Embryonic Stem Cell Research – defeated in Budget conference committee**

**Ban State Funding of Abortions – defeated in Budget conference committee**

**Ban State Funding of Planned Parenthood – Passed Senate 21-20; defeated in Budget conference committee**

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