



2009 WINS AND LOSSES

Pro-Family Legislation Passed & Anti-Family Legislation Defeated

MARRIAGE

HB1746/SB827—Family Life Education; Benefits of Marriage—adds information concerning the benefits, value, challenges and responsibilities of marriage to the FLE curriculum. *HB1746 Passed House of Delegates 84-14; Passed Senate 40-0; SB827 Passed Senate 40-0; Passed House of Delegates 88-11. Signed by the Governor.*

HB1625—Fair Housing Law—would have added discrimination based on sexual orientation as an unlawful discriminatory housing practice. *Left in House General Laws Committee.*

HB1726—Group Life Insurance Coverage (Domestic Partner Benefits)—would have allowed coverage under a group life insurance policy to be extended to insure any class of persons as may mutually be agreed upon by the insurer and the group policy owner. *Defeated in House Commerce and Labor subcommittee.*

HB2385—Nondiscrimination in State Public Employment—would have added discrimination based on sexual orientation as an unlawful discriminatory hiring practice in state government. *Defeated in House Courts of Justice subcommittee.*

HJ657—Constitutional Amendment; Repeal Marriage Amendment—would have repealed the marriage amendment to the Virginia Constitution passed in 2006. *Defeated in House Privileges and Elections subcommittee.*

SB945—Domestic Partner Health Insurance Coverage—would have provided that the governing body of any locality that self-funds a health insurance program for its officers and employees may extend coverage under such program to any other class of persons as may be mutually agreed upon by the locality and the policyholder. *Passed by Senate 23-17; Defeated in House Commerce and Labor Committee 8-14.*

SB1247—Virginia Human Rights Act; Add Sexual Orientation—would have added sexual orientation as a protected class in Virginia's Human Rights Act. *Stricken by patron.*

LIFE

SB817—Choose Life License Plate—adds a "Choose Life" license plate to the list of plates Virginians can pick. Proceeds from these plates are directed to pregnancy resource centers. *Passed Senate 20-19; Passed House of Delegates 68-31. Signed by the Governor.*

SB1338—Science and Biotech Research—creates tax credits and incentives for biotech research. The bill was amended to forbid the use of funds for research that requires the destruction of human embryos or the use of human fetal tissue from aborted fetuses. *Passed Senate 38-2; Passed House of Delegates 99-0. Signed by the Governor.*

PARENTAL AUTHORITY

HB1980—Family Life Education; Parental Notification—requires schools to inform parents of the content of Family Life Education, including a curriculum summary and instructions on how to review full content. *Passed House of Delegates 98-0; Passed Senate 40-0. Signed by the Governor.*

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

HB2285/SB936—Budget Online Reform—improves usability of Virginia's online budget, Commonwealth Datapoint. *HB2285 Passed House of Delegates 100-0; Passed Senate 38-0; SB936 Passed Senate 38-0; Passed House of Delegates 100-0. Signed by the Governor.*

SB1101/1397—Simulcast Horse Racing—would have expanded gambling in Virginia by redefining simulcast horse racing to include live or pre-recorded horse races. *Stricken by patrons.*

HB2376—Estate Tax Reinstated—would have reinstated the so-called "death tax" repealed in Virginia in 2004. *Defeated in House Finance subcommittee.*

Pro-Family Legislation Defeated & Anti-Family Legislation Passed

LIFE

HB2579—Ultrasound Requirement—would have required abortion providers to perform an ultrasound and inform women of their right to review the ultrasound. It would have also required that the Health Department update Informed Consent materials to include ultrasound information. *Passed House of Delegates 62-36; Defeated in Senate Ed and Health committee 11-4.*

HB2634—Fetal Pain Relief—would have required Informed Consent law to include information about the possibility that unborn children feel pain. *Passed House of Delegates 64-34; Defeated in Senate Ed and Health committee 11-4.*

SB1270—Abortion Clinic Safety Reporting and Standards—would have required abortion clinics to be regulated as outpatient surgery centers. *Defeated in Senate Education and Health committee 10-5.*

Budget Amendment—Ban on State Funding for Embryonic Stem Cell Research—would have banned state funding on Embryonic Stem Cell Research. *Passed House of Delegates 79-21; Defeated in budget conference committee.*

Budget Amendment—Ban on State Funding for Abortions—would have banned state funding of elective low income abortions. *Passed House of Delegates 61-28; Defeated in budget conference committee.*

Budget Amendment—Ban on State Funding of Planned Parenthood—would have banned state funding of Planned Parenthood. *Passed House of Delegates 64-35; Defeated in budget conference committee.*

PARENTAL AUTHORITY

SB1221/HB1965—Scholarship Tax Credit—would have provided tax relief for individuals and corporations that donate to scholarship programs and public schools. *SB1221 failed in Senate Finance without a motion; HB 1965 passed House of Delegates 50-47; defeated in Senate Finance committee 10-4-1.*

HB2104—Students with Disabilities Tuition Assistance Grant—would have provided tax relief for families with children with autism. *Passed House of Delegates 59-39; Defeated in Senate Education and Health committee 10-4-1.*

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

SB1272/HB1730—Tax Legislation; Four Year Sunset Provision—would have required a sunset date of no more than four years from passage for any new taxes or tax increases. *SB1272 Defeated in Senate Rules 17-0; HB1730 Passed House of Delegates 55-43; Defeated in Senate Rules committee.*

HJ725—Constitutional Amendment; Eminent Domain—would have placed on the ballot a constitutional amendment limiting the power of state government to take private property through eminent domain. *Passed House of Delegates 68-31; Defeated in Senate Privileges and Elections committee 8-7.*