

April 2015

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The Southeast Law Institute continues to provide assistance in a number of ways on the same sex issue. We have briefly reported in earlier publications of some of the things in which we have been involved.

The most important of those is the Petition for Writ of Mandamus that we filed on behalf of the Alabama Policy Institute and the Alabama Citizens Action Program (ALCAP), seeking to enforce Alabama's traditional one man one woman marriage laws. We have also been involved in a number of legislative activities related to possible repercussions related to the same sex marriage issue.

Until now, there was not a good time to report what has happened. However, the Alabama Supreme Court has entered a significant landmark decision on the constitutionality of traditional marriage. Our Educational Update this month explains the court's order.

There is still uncertainty about what may happen in the future. Because we are concerned that traditional marriage laws could be struck down, many Alabama citizens could be put in the position of having to provide products or services to individuals involved in objectionable marriage or conjugal relationships. To anticipate these problems, the Alabama Legislature needs to enact several laws that will protect Alabama citizens. We have been encouraging the Legislature to be proactive in this, but with so many other issues pressing the state, it has been difficult.

At the same time, we have been able to provide legal advice to a number of churches and individuals that are already experiencing some same sex marriage repercussions. It would be an understatement to say this is the most important issue facing the state. It is an extraordinarily important issue facing the state and the nation.

We are grateful for your continuing support. The magnitude of this issue places a significant burden on our financial resources. Please continue to pray for us and support us financially.

With personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston