

June 2015

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The regular session of the Legislature will be winding down in the next few days. It will meet June 2, 3 and 4, and then a final day on June 15. It leaves little time for very much to be done.

This month's Educational Update is on the subject of gambling. It is not likely any gambling legislation will pass during the regular session. However, there is a very good chance it will come up in a special session. The Legislature has had a difficult time addressing financial problems for the state and, in all likelihood, it will not be accomplished during the regular session. Therefore, a special session will follow.

Because of the state's financial issues, we knew it would be a difficult session. Also, it was the first year of the quadrennium with many freshmen legislators. Everyone had a lot to learn, including getting to know each other. All of this coalesced to be an impediment for issues that always seem to have a hard time, even with a Republican legislature, *viz.*, social issues.

At the time we prepare this newsletter, there is a slim chance, very slim, that any of the four sanctity of life bills will pass. The Legislature refused to entertain any significant bills to deal with the same sex tsunami that will be coming once the U.S. Supreme Court rules on the same sex marriage issue at the end of June. Regrettably, that means nothing done to protect innocent life and little done to protect the family. We will give a full report on the Legislature in the near future.

Recently, we worked with a family on an end of life issue. In the end, the person died naturally. We were able to minister to the family through the process and hopefully restore some good family relations. The story will be edifying and we will share it with you later.

Finally, we have sponsored and participated in two seminars for pastors dealing with same sex issues. We will resume those seminars in the fall, after the summer break. We will also know the outcome of the same sex marriage case in the U.S. Supreme Court. Pastors will be on a steep learning curve.

Thank you for your support. Please continue your support through the summer, which is the most difficult time for us financially. With best wishes, I am,

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston