

May 2018

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This month our Educational Update provides a brief overview of our participation in the legislative process regarding the subjects of pro-life, gambling and religious rights. These fit within the purposes of the Southeast Law Institute in its participation in the legal and political arenas.

The Southeast Law Institute provides legal assistance to senators, representatives and interest groups, like the Alabama Pro-Life Coalition, ALCAP, and others on issues related to religious freedom, the sanctity of life, parental rights, family issues, gambling, *etcetera*. We were privileged this year to be able to provide assistance on a number of bills. This assistance consisted of bill drafting, testimony before committees and providing legal advice on the meaning and application of potential laws.

Our efforts are not to lobby for issues as such. We do not have specific clients. Rather, we represent these interests on a pro bono basis throughout the process. For example, our work on the daycare bill for the last two years was for the protection of church daycare ministries. We did not represent any specific church. It would benefit every church in Alabama with a daycare ministry. We represented the religious rights of all churches to engage in certain ministry without interference from the state. Similarly, in our pro-life efforts, we are working on behalf of the unborn and their families.

Our supporters are a very important part of our ministry. We are continuously grateful for your prayer and financial support.

In about the next 30 days you will receive many robo-calls, see many TV ads and read much campaign literature. This is a very important election year, particularly for state offices. Every seat of the executive and legislative branches, and some judge seats, will be on the ballot. The outcome of these races will affect the issues mentioned above. Do not grow weary with the politicking, but be informed and vote wisely on Tuesday, June 5.

Keep in mind that the present term of the U.S. Supreme Court is ending in June. The Justices are writing some very important opinions. Please pray for wisdom and divine guidance as they make decisions on issues that are important to religious freedom and other individual rights.

With personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston