

November 2018

Dear Friends and Supporters,

You know about our two years of labor to protect church daycares from state regulation. Some of those regulations went into effect in October. However, the implementing form sent out by the Department of Human Relations did not follow the requirements of the law. While much of the content was acceptable, it was predicated on the idea that churches were somehow being required to seek permission from DHR to operate daycares. We contacted DHR several weeks ago and told them the forms were completely unacceptable. Since then, we worked out all of the incorrect provisions and the forms are now properly worded. Churches may feel free to complete the forms that DHR will now provide. If you know anyone that has a question on this, let me know.

As you are receiving this newsletter and Educational Update a little early, the State of Alabama, as well as many other states, is preparing for a general election. One of the most important duties as a citizen is to vote. No citizen should vote without being informed. One of our purposes is to inform citizens of important issues which impact, among other things, religious freedom and the sanctity of life. As you know, we work constantly on these issues in the judicial and legislative arenas.

Four constitutional amendments will be on the general ballot in Alabama on November 6. These will include two very important ones: constitutional amendments on religious freedom and the Ten Commandments (Amendment #1), and the sanctity of life (Amendment #2). This month's Educational Update explains both of those. There are two other amendments, one dealing with the University of Alabama Board of Trustees (Amendment #3) and one dealing with filling a vacancy in the Alabama Legislature (Amendment #4). These two are beyond our purview.

We urge you to not only vote for these amendments but to diligently spread the word for people to go to the polls and vote. Please forward or show this letter and the Educational Update to as many persons as possible.

Since these are issue related referenda, churches and nonprofit organizations are permitted to openly and legally support them. We urge you to ask your church to publish the enclosed information and for their members to turn out to vote. If you encounter any resistance on this, we are glad to provide a detailed legal opinion on the rights of churches and nonprofit organizations to participate in issue referenda.

Finally, please pray for the election. We need godly men and women elected to lead our state and our nation. Pray God will continue to bless America.

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston