

April 2019

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year, the Alabama Legislature is getting off to a slow start. In the first year of the legislative quadrennium, the Legislature does not start until March. Having had a special session on the gas tax has delayed the regular session even further. Although it has met several days, it is not really getting started in earnest until April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

This month's Educational Update mentions four bills that are important to SLI. We have worked on these and several other bills. We will keep you informed throughout the session on developments on issues important to the objectives of SLI.

One way or another, we were all relieved that the Mueller report was released. Most of us were relieved that it did not find collusion with Russia. We were not surprised that the investigation found that Russia did attempt to intervene in the last presidential campaign.

What is disappointing is that not all Americans were glad of this conclusion. Some would have preferred that collusion was found in order to destroy the Trump presidency. "Trump" aside, no American should ever be interested in destroying the presidency of the United States. As we know, political dialogue has become so partisan that the overall interests and good of the country are secondary to winning the political game.

Maybe we should not be surprised. For the specific issues with which SLI deals, we know there is a definite political agenda on either side. The sanctity of life and religious freedom are viewed very differently by political factions. That division is becoming more pronounced. The young progressives of the Democrat Party are advocating socialism and/or communism as a better form of government for us. It makes you wonder why they are not more supportive of Russian interference.

The reality of it all is that the values that we hold dear and seek to protect become more under attack as time goes on. As politics drive the agenda, the challenges to our Judeo-Christian values will become more pronounced.

Thank you very much for your continuing financial and prayer support for our efforts. With personal regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston

AEJ/pmm