

April 2022

Dear Friends and Supporters,

At the time we publish this Newsletter and Educational Update there are four legislative days remaining. It has been an unusual session, since we have not been actively and affectively engaged for the last two years due to Covid. The State House was still not as crowded as prior to the pandemic.

However, we were free to work with legislators this year providing them with legal guidance and assistance on many important issues. In our May publications, we will provide you with additional updates on how the session ended.

In the meantime, we continue to provide a significant amount of time and effort to pass the Alabama Vulnerable Child Compassion and Protection Act. That was addressed in last month's Educational Update and this month provides additional information. We have found the overwhelming majority of senators and representatives in support of our efforts. However, we have run into problems with leadership due to political pressure from significant medical and national business interest. That interest is not in the public interest, but is driven by a very vocal and well-funded LGBTQ+ agenda.

We have also been able to provide advice on several issues protecting the sanctity of life, one of our primary areas of concern. One bill would provide a resource to pregnant women, funded by the state, to provide them direction and care for their pregnancies. We are hopeful the *Dobbs* case (the Mississippi law restricting abortions to below 15 weeks) will have a very positive impact on abortion rights with an opinion expected in June 2022. We know that pregnancy care centers render a very valuable resource to women. If abortion is restricted or prohibited, those services will become even more important. The public policy of Alabama is to protect lives. We expect the state to provide resources for that purpose.

SLI tries to focus on the issues that are important to us. We are called upon by many groups to assist them on other issues which are important to us, though may not be our primary concern. We are pleased to be a resource for others.

Your continued support make our services available. Thank you for your faith in our efforts. With personal regards, I am,

Yours Very Truly,

A. Eric Johnston

AEJ/pkh

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