

New Hampshire Right to Life

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LEGISLATIVE ALERT

Your help is needed in 2005!

Please note the following hearing dates for bills and try to come to as many as possible. YOUR comments to the legislative committees in support of pro-life bills are very important! All hearings will be in the Legislative Office Building (LOB), 33 North State St, about one block from the gold-domed State House.

- **HB-39**, a bill relative to **sex education in the public schools**, allows parents to refuse their children's participation in sex education classes and sets forth criteria for sex ed classes, such as respecting traditional marriage and stressing abstinence. It also requires that pupils be made aware of the "safe haven" legislation. A hearing where your input is welcome begins at 10am in the LOB, Room 207, on Tuesday, January 18.
- **HB-104** is an act requiring **insurance coverage for infertility treatment** mandates that all health insurers provide coverage for procedures that pro-lifers find objectionable, such as "frozen embryo transfer" and "seven completed egg retrievals per lifetime." Please speak against this before the Commerce Committee, 10am, Jan. 26, LOB 302.
- **HB-105** is relative to **denial of fertility treatment** and already had the NH House hearing. Rep. Casey Crane, the sponsor, testified that women who are pro-life and do not believe in "selective reduction" can be forced out of the program, after spending time and money (i.e. at Dartmouth Hitchcock). There are a lot of issues with this bill, but the intent is not pro-abortion. We will keep in touch with the HB-106 study committee forming
- **HB 106** calls for a commission to **study the practices of fertility clinics** and likewise has already had a hearing. This bill is considered to be pro-abortion because it could compel pro-life institutions to provide objectionable methods of fertility treatment. It is sponsored by those known to support abortion.
- **HB-83** seeks to repeal the obligation of town and city clerks to **provide persons applying for a marriage license with a list of family planning services**. This bill passed the NH House last session, but was killed by the Senate. Father O'Connor, the late chaplain of NHRTL, requested this bill, so we dearly want it passed. You can testify for it during the Municipal Government hearing on January 19, at 10:00 a.m., in LOB Room 301.
- **LSR-0536** is still in draft form so it does not have a "HB" number yet. It **will require abortionists to provide women with information** such as the effects of abortion on them and their unborn children, and the alternatives to abortion. If you're on the NHRTL E-mail list, or monitor the website, you will see updates, including when you can testify in favor of this bill sponsored by former NHRTL President (now NH State Rep.) Barbara Hagan.
- **LSR-0803** is still in draft form. It deals with **medical decisions for adults without capacity to make their own decisions** so monitor your NHRTL e-mails or the website for updates about when you can testify.
- **LSR-0198-R** has not been released yet either, but it is being sponsored by pro-life Rep. Packy Campbell and it seeks to include the unborn in the various criminal laws. Again, watch for e-mail or check the website frequently.
- More bills could be introduced. Over the next few weeks, news of exact times and places for you to testify on these bills will be on www.nhrtl.org. These bills are where the election results reveal their true significance.

To "**Testify**" before a NH legislative committee is not as scary as it may sound.. We citizens merely show up at the meeting and sign off a card to say we want to speak for 2 to 5 minutes to the committee of 12 to 15 representatives. The postcards are collected and the Chair calls up speakers one at a time, usually alternating between those who favor the bill and those who oppose it. Each of us can read our message, merely hand in copies of our message/letter, or speak with or without notes. You can bring copies of articles or exhibits as you see fit. After your 2 to 5 minute

talk, the Committee members are entitled to ask you questions, but generally they do not ask questions. Then you may sit down again or just leave the hearing. Many many thanks for lending your voice to the voiceless!