

Phyllis Schlafly: I'll See You There!

As reported by Jerome R. Corsi at *World Net Daily*, on February 25, 2015, Phyllis Schlafly was honored at the Annual Paul Weyrich Awards Dinner in Washington, emceed by noted conservative attorney Cleta Mitchell. The audience of some 500 people included



the most widely known and highly respected conservative leaders in America. They gathered to celebrate our national leader and conservative icon Phyllis Schlafly on the 50th anniversary of her seminal book, "A Choice, Not an Echo." The book by 90 year old Schlafly has sold 3.5 million copies.

The annual Paul Weyrich Awards Dinner is held each year during the time of the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in memory of the leader who co-founded the Heritage Foundation and the Free Congress Foundation. The Award this year was presented to Phyllis Schlafly who was one of Weyrich's best friends and a leader in the conservative movement.

Schlafly said that Weyrich, "...was a tremendous figure in the early conservative movement, and I am proud to have called him my friend. It is truly an honor to receive an award that bears his name, and I am thrilled that the dinner has chosen to highlight my updated *A Choice, Not an Echo* for a new generation of conservatives to see."

She went on to say, "We are facing the same battles today that Paul and I faced in the last 50 years." Schlafly ended her remarks by saying, "I'll see you all there!" meaning that she can foresee the day when conservative values once again are dominant in the American political arena.

Besides the many dignitaries who attended, there were a number of tribute videos offered, one of which was by our Senator Jeff Sessions.

Victory for Marriage in Alabama

Praise GOD; the Alabama Supreme Court has held that judges "are ordered to discontinue the issuance of marriage licenses to same-sex couples."

In an 8-1 ruling issued late on March 3, 2015, the Alabama Supreme Court affirmed regarding the decision of United States District Court Judge Granade of the Mobile District that Probate Judges in Alabama must follow Alabama law and the Alabama Constitution regarding the marriage laws of Alabama. Their ruling states that the District Court had jurisdiction only upon her district and that she ruled only upon the cases before her, therefore her ruling did not apply to all Probate Judges in Alabama.

Thanks to Alabama Policy Institute and ALCAP who petitioned the court and Eric Johnston and Liberty Counsel who wrote their briefs. Thanks to Dean Johnson and Andy Schlafly who handled the Eagle Forum Amicus Brief and to so many others who prayed and acted.

Now let's all pray that others across this great nation will have the courage and wisdom to stand for the rule of law and to stand

Continued on page 7

Alabama Legislature Begins 2015 Session

On March 3, 2015, the Alabama Legislature kicked off its annual legislative session amid continued controversy about taxes, Common Core, prison reform, Medicaid expense increases and many other issues.

Common Core

Again this year, Eagle Forum will advocate for ending the stranglehold of the federal government on education in Alabama through Common Core and its associated assessments and data mining of our children. We are proud to be working with Senator Rusty Glover who is sponsoring our bill to **Re-Establish Control of Education in Alabama to State and Local Education Agencies**.

Taxes

We are working to stop Governor Bentley's proposed tax increases and encourage continued efforts to reduce the size and expense associated with state government.

Marriage (see article on page 1)

Eagle Forum sent an open letter to all Alabama Legislators to help them encourage probate judges in their district not to issue marriage licenses to same sex couples. In the letter, Eunie Smith reminded them of the Marriage Statement in the 2009 Manhattan Declaration. *"No one has a civil right to have a non-marital relationship treated as marriage. Marriage is an objective reality – a covenantal union of husband and wife – that it is the duty of the law to recognize and support for the sake of justice and*

the common good..." This letter is available on our website at www.alabamaeagle.org. We understand that House Republicans plan to pass the **Freedom of Religion in Marriage Protection Act**, which will protect judges, ministers, and others from being forced to participate in wedding ceremonies that violate their fundamental religious and moral beliefs. We support this legislation.

Pro-life

On the pro-life front, we will be supporting the Conscience Bill again this year, which will protect health care workers from having to participate in abortions against their religious convictions.

Charter Schools

Republicans plan to pass a bill to authorize Charter Schools in Alabama as an effort to increase school choice options. While we support parental options for the education of their children, we are working to improve the bill with provisions to protect Alabama Charter Schools from influence by outside and/or foreign forces, such as the Turkish Gulen Movement. This movement comes into states and establishes charter schools and then brings in Turkish teachers using H1B visas. They include teaching the Muslim religion in these schools.

Workforce Scholarships

House Republicans plan to provide an additional \$5 million

in funding for student scholarships in career-tech dual enrollment programs.

Economic Development

This involves efforts to overhaul and update our economic development incentives to recruit new business and retain existing business in Alabama.

Regulation Repeal Act

This effort calls for the repeal of more than 300 obsolete, unenforceable, and unneeded laws that are currently on the books.

Truth in Salary Act

This bill will require state agencies and public education entities to provide employees with an annual itemized statement detailing all benefits that are being provided along with their cost to the taxpayers.

Student Religious Liberties Act

This bill will re-establish the freedom of student-led prayer and religious expression in our schools.

Capital Punishment Act

This would again use the electric chair as the primary method of execution if lethal injection is ruled unconstitutional or if the drugs essential to carrying out that death penalty process are unavailable for any reason.

Eagle Forum will monitor all these bills.

Federal Education Bills Stopped

(at least for now)

The Student Success Act (HR5)

With the divide between the Republican House and the Democrat Senate, **the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act/No Child Left Behind** has languished for the past seven years. HR 5 was introduced as the replacement for No Child Left Behind. This 600 hundred plus page bill passed out of committee on February 11, 2015, but due to strong grassroots opposition from parents and education activists, the House has at least temporarily suspended consideration of the bill.

The bill, called **The Student Success Act (HR5)**, was called a step toward reducing the federal government's involvement in education, but it does little to accomplish that goal. According to a report by Karen R. Effrem, MD and President of Education Liberty Watch, the bill:

- 1) Continues the federal requirement for statewide standards and tests with the demand for Common Core's "college and career ready standards"
- 2) Portability provision risks inserting federal and Common Core control in private schools
- 3) Prohibits federal involvement for future Common Core disasters, but does nothing to stop current situation
- 4) States' rights, private school autonomy, and religious freedom are severely curtailed
- 5) Parental involvement and other language actually harms parental rights and inserts more federal involvement
- 6) Although containing some good privacy language, HR5 still relies on a very outdated and severely weakened privacy law
- 7) Does nothing to deal with psychological manipulation, profiling, and data collection rampant in Common Core and numerous other federal education programs
- 8) The data collection protection statutes and those involved with student surveys are not yet updated
- 9) The potentially dangerous federal involvement in the parental relationship with schools
- 10) Students and families need protection against coercion to be labeled and placed on psychotropic medication

This bill needs to die a quick death and be replaced by the LEARN Act (HR121) sponsored by Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ). This bill would give states the option to opt out of NCLB, with the federal government providing taxpayers of the opt-out state a tax credit, keeping money in the pockets of taxpayers instead of sending it to Washington D. C. This cuts the authoritative and financial strings of the federal government and gives back authority to the states and local governments to set education standards and policy.

Strengthening Education Through Research Act (SETRA)

S227 titled Strengthening Education through Research Act (SETRA) reauthorizes the 2002 Education Sciences Reform Act which started the concept of state longitudinal databases, stepped around the prohibition on a national database by creating "national cooperative education statistics systems," that allowed personally identifiable information to go to international agencies, and removed the previous penalties of fines and imprisonment for misusing individual student data. SETRA continues or worsens all of that.

The four important points about SETRA are:

- 1) Seeks to expand federal psychological profiling of our children
- 2) Only appears to prohibit a national database
- 3) Continues to rely on a severely outdated and weakened FERPA to protect student data
- 4) Continues the large loophole that renders Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) ineffective in preventing nosy social questions in tests and curriculum.

The Senate has indefinitely postponed voting on this bill also because of a nationwide backlash over psychological profiling and data privacy and security concerns.

Eagle Forum will continue to monitor these bills and work ultimately for state, rather than federal control of education.

The Florida Court of Appeals held Wednesday in *Norman v. State* that the Second Amendment protects the right to carry a firearm outside the home. "After *Heller I*, *McDonald*, and [other recent rulings]," the court ruled, "it is clear that a total ban on the public carrying of ready-to-use handguns outside the home cannot survive a constitutional challenge under any level of scrutiny." The ruling quoted *Peruta v. County of San Diego*, in which the Ninth Circuit Court (yes, *that* Ninth Circuit) said a right is essentially "destroyed [if the] exercise of [that] right is limited to a few people, in a few places, at a few times." The Florida court did uphold the right of states to determine the *manner* of carry (open or concealed): "The Legislature is permitted to regulate the manner in which arms are borne for the purpose of maintaining public peace and safety, so long as any such regulation leaves available a viable carry mode." The court also didn't handle the question of limits to *where* a gun can be carried -- only that the overall right extends outside the home.

The Patriot Post, Feb 20, 2015

College enrollment declined this fall for the sixth semester in a row, according to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. The decrease of 1.3% incidates about 250,000 fewer students enrolled in higher education programs. The biggest drop was among those over age 24. Growth in enrollment was concentrated at the largest, four-year, not for profit, private campuses. *HechingerReport, 12-11-14*

Let's suppose there's an enterprising Immigrations and Customs Enforcement agent who doesn't follow the "prioritized deportation" policies handed down by a lawmaking president, but instead, follows the letter of the law. MSNBC's Jose Diaz-Balart asked Barack Obama, "How do you ensure that ICE and Border Patrol won't be deporting people like this. What are the consequences?" And Obama answered that agent would have trouble. "The bottom line is that if somebody's working for ICE," Obama said, "and there's a policy, and they don't follow the policy, there's going to be consequences to it. So I can't speak to a specific problem. What I can talk about is what's true in the government generally. In the U.S. military, when you get an order, you're expected to follow it." In effect, Obama is saying his executive action on immigration -- although unconstitutional and stayed by a federal judge -- has the force of law and his authority as commander in chief behind it. Beware any lowly law enforcement official who doesn't fall into line.

The Patriot Post, Feb 26, 2015

Watch your pocketbook: White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest confirmed that President Obama is "very interested" in the idea of raising taxes through unilateral executive action. "The president certainly has not indicated any reticence in using his executive authority to try and advance an agenda that benefits middle class Americans." *Townhall.com*

"If the policy of the Government ...is to be irrevocably fixed by the Supreme Court...the people will have ceased to be their own rulers." Lincoln

American Minute by Bill Federer

"But if we are to be told by a foreign power—what we shall so, and what we shall not do, we have independence yet to seek, and have contended hitherto for very little." *George Washington, letter to Alexander Hamilton, 1796 as quoted in The Patriot Post, Jan. 3, 2015*

"Fear is necessary in Despotic government...Virtue in necessary in a Republic..,"

Montesquieu

American Minute.com

"The same revolutionary beliefs for which our forebears fought are still at issue around the globe - The belief that the rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God."

The 35th President John F. Kennedy, stated in his INAUGURAL, January 20, 1961: from American Minute.com

"[T]o preserve the republican form and principles of our Constitution and cleave to the salutary distribution of powers which that [the Constitution] has established ... are the two sheet anchors of our Union. If driven from either, we shall be in danger of foundering."

Thomas Jefferson, letter to Judge William Johnson, 1823 Patriot Post, June, 27, 2014

For Every New Job, Two New Immigrants

Since 2000: 9.3 million new jobs, 18 million new immigrants

As reported by the Center for Immigration Studies, February 11, 2015

The Center for Immigration Studies reports that government data collected in December 2014 show 18 million immigrants (legal and illegal) living in the United States who arrived in January 2000 or later. But only 9.3 million jobs were added over this time period. Yet Congress is actually considering proposals to increase legal immigration even further. Policy-makers continue to falsely claim a labor shortage and to disregard the long-term absorption capacity of the U.S. labor market, which has profound implications for American workers.

“It is a mistake to think every job taken by an immigrant is a job lost by a native, but it is equally wrong to think that adding this huge number of immigrants has no implications for American workers,” said Steven Camarota, co-author of the report and the Center’s Director of Research. “If immigration is the great job creator for natives that advocates argue,” he added, “the record number of new arrivals in the last 14 years should have created a jobs bonanza for natives. Instead, job growth did

not come close to matching new immigration and natural population increase; and the labor force participation of natives shows a long-term decline, even before the Great Recession.”

- In December 2014, there were 18 million immigrants (legal and illegal) living in the country who had arrived since January 2000; 89 percent were potential workers 16 and older.
- Legal immigrants account for between two-thirds and three-fourths of the new arrivals.
- Over this same time period the number of jobs in the U.S. increased by just 9.3 million.
- In addition to the 18 million new immigrants, the native-born adult population 16 and older grew by 25.2 million since 2000.
- Long-term job growth has not come close to matching new immigration and natural population increase; as a result, the labor force partici-

pation rate (the share working or looking for work) of native-born Americans aged 16 to 65 shows significant long-term decline.

- The share of native-born Americans 16 to 65 in the labor force was 77 percent in December 2000, 75 percent in December 2007, and 72 percent in December 2014.
- The number of 16 to 65-year-old natives not in the labor force (neither working nor looking for work) increased by 13 million from December 2000 to December 2014.
- If we look at the period after the Great Recession began, 7.8 million new immigrants arrived from 2008 to 2014, yet net job growth was just two million.
- If we look at the period before the Great Recession, from January 2000 to December 2007, 11.1 million immigrants arrived and job growth was still only 7.3 million.

View the complete report at: <http://cis.org/for-every-new-job-two-new-immigrants>

Union Membership Lowest in 100 Years

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the union membership rate fell to 11.1 %, with just 14.6 million wage and salaried workers maintaining membership. This is down from 11.3 % in 2013. Also according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the rate of union membership for public sector workers last year was 35.7%, compared to just 6.6 % for the private sector.

James Sherk, a labor economic policy economist at the Heritage Foundation says that the drop in the rate of union membership can likely be attributed to the antiquated union model. He said that unions have failed to modernize over time and noted that workers are moving away from joining because their contracts are no longer relevant.

Source: *The Daily Signal*, by Melissa Quinn, posted on January 23, 2015

A Closer Look at the Obama Economy

From the Eagle Forum News & Notes, January 16, 2015

The following analysis has been compiled by the Senate Finance Committee Republican Staff.

- The number of people who are not in the labor force has grown, despite a growing working-age population, by 11.9 million.
- The employment-to-population ratio has remained consistently below 60 percent during the Obama Administration's tenure and has barely budged; in contrast, the ratio averaged 62.9 percent between the beginning of 2000 through when the president assumed office.
- There has only been a net 5.3 million payroll jobs created over the Obama Administration's tenure vs. over 7.3 million payroll jobs that were lost during the recession.
- Inflation-adjusted median household income has fallen during the Obama Administration's tenure from \$54,423 in 2008, the year before the president took office, to only \$51,939 in 2013.
- The number of people in poverty has risen over the Obama Administration's tenure, from 39.8 million in 2008, before the president took office, to 45.3 million in 2013.
- The federal budget deficit ballooned to \$1.41 trillion in fiscal year (FY) 2009. Under the Obama Administration, the Obama-era deficits have been as high as 9.8 percent of the size of the entire economy -- deficit levels not seen since the years surrounding World War II.
- Total public debt outstanding has increased by \$8.6 trillion during the Obama Administration's tenure -- more than the annual output of Germany, France, and Italy combined.

Temperature Data Tampered With

According to a report on *NewsMax.com* dated February 12, 2015, Christopher Booker of the UK *Telegraph* calls man-made global warming the “biggest science scandal ever,” and it’s easy to see why. Recent studies have shown:

- Temperature data from NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) was dramatically altered, and rather than showing a 1.5-degree Celsius increase from 1950 to 2014, the raw data actually showed a 1-degree Celsius temperature decrease over those 65 years.
- Two of the official data records for climate temperatures — Remote Sensing Systems (RSS) in California, and the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) — have recorded 18 straight years of no temperature increases, and 2014, recently called the “warmest year ever” was, in fact, only the sixth warmest year since 1997.
- Arctic ice levels, it turns out, have nothing to do with alleged man-made global warming. The decrease in Arctic ice is simply a byproduct of naturally occurring cyclical shifts in warm water currents. In fact, when the warm water currents last peaked 75 years ago, Arctic ice had retreated even further back than it has recently.

NewsMax.com further reports: “None of this is news to John Casey, who has been at the forefront of the movement calling man-made global warming a total hoax. Casey, a former White House space program adviser, consultant to NASA headquarters, and space shuttle engineer, found evidence — buried right in the government’s own environmental studies — that destroys the argument for ‘global warming.’ Using their own data, John has proven that ‘global warming’ is a sham backed by a network of politicians, corporations, and scientists conspiring to promote the fear of ‘global warming’ . . . despite clear evidence that no such ‘global warming’ exists.”

One has only to note the record low temperatures and snowfalls this winter to see the truth on this.

Teen Eagles Attend March for Life



Alabama Teen Eagles attended the annual March for Life in Birmingham on January 17, 2015 to show their support for life. On the left is the group sponsor Tammy Jones, her daughter Elyse Jones, and Bethany Dudley on the right.

FCC Votes to Declare the Internet a Public Utility And regulate it with 1934 Law



for what is right in God's sight!!

The 134 page ruling ends with this statement:

The named respondents are ordered to discontinue the issuance of marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Further, and pursuant to relator Judge Enslin's request that this Court, "by any and all lawful means available to it," ensure compliance with Alabama law with respect to the issuance of marriage licenses, each of the probate judges in this State other than the named respondents and Judge Davis are joined as respondents in the place of the "Judge Does" identified in the petition. Within five business days following the issuance of this order, each such probate judge may file an answer responding to the relator's petition for the writ of mandamus and showing cause, if any, why said probate judge should not be bound hereby. Subject to further order of this Court upon receipt and consideration of any such answer, each such probate judge is temporarily enjoined from issuing any marriage license contrary to Alabama law as explained in this opinion.

As to Judge Davis's request to be dismissed on the ground that he is subject to a potentially conflicting federal court order, he is directed to advise this Court, by letter brief, no later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 5, 2015, as to whether he is bound by any existing federal court order regarding the issuance of any marriage license other than the four marriage licenses he was ordered to issue in Strawser.



Eagle Forum
of Alabama

**Education
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4200 Stone River Circle, Birmingham, AL 35213

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