

2003 Legislative Directory—INSIDE>>>>>>

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Physician Assisted Suicide Bills Back in Play— Outcome Depends on Public Involvement

Attempting to make Hawaii the second state in the nation to legalize physician-assisted suicide (PAS), lawmakers in the House and Senate have introduced HB 862 and SB 391.

referred to the Health Committee. As of this writing, the referral in the House was yet to be determined. In the Senate, the bill was referred to both the Health and Judiciary Committees.

improving end-of-life care, age of consent, domestic violence, elder abuse, civil unions, adoption promotion and more. Please see insert entitled “Selected 2003 Legislation” for a more detailed listing of some

Passage of either bill will depend, in large part, on the involvement of the public. Without a huge groundswell of opposition from people in the community, PAS may well become law in Hawaii. Also figuring in to the final outcome is the ‘referral’ of the bills to committees. Last year in the House, the PAS bill was not even

Hearings are likely soon so please be prepared to respond to our alerts. (See ‘Getting ACTIVELY Involved – page 3.’)

Without a huge groundswell of opposition from people in the community, PAS may well become law in Hawaii.

There are many other bills of interest to HFF supporters including

of the bills being tracked by Hawaii Family Forum. Also included inside this edition is the current 2003 directory of legislators. This handy one-page tool includes the district description, phone, fax, and e-mail of your legislators.

Calendar of Events

February 17, 2003

HOLIDAY
President’s Day

February 20—26, 2003

Mandatory Five Day
Recess

February 28, 2003

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Dear Friend of the Family:

This particular newsletter was compiled to assist you in understanding what HFF can do for you to assist you with the legislative process. In this issue, you will find valuable information to facilitate your grassroots efforts. While some of you have been more active in the legislative process over the course of the last few years than others, we encourage all of you to exercise your right to change the outcome of the 2003 legislature. We, at HFF, believe that the key to successful participation is timely information, increased knowledge, and effective communication. Your participation in the legislative process is essential to the preservation of a democratic republic. Remember—you really can make a difference!

Anti-Assisted Suicide Coalition Takes Preemptive Action—TV, Radio and Print Campaign Reaching Community

As you've likely seen by now, Hawaii's Partnership for Appropriate and Compassionate (HPACC) has been running television, radio and print advertisements to educate the public about the negative effects of legalized assisted suicide.

HPACC is the diverse coalition of health care, disability rights and pro-life organizations allied to oppose PAS and improve end-of-life care. HPACC

was formed in 1998 by Hawaii Family Forum and the Hawaii Medical Association and HFF Executive Director, Kelly Rosati, is the coordinator of HPACC.

HPACC also now has its own website. The TV, radio and prints ads may be viewed on the website at www.hpacc.org.

HPACC NEEDS YOUR HELP:

HPACC needs additional funds to continue to air the ads during the legislative session. If you would like to contribute to this effort, please send your checks made payable to HPACC to: 6301 Pali Hwy, Kaneohe, HI 96744.

Hawaii Coalition Against Legalized Gambling Conducts Chili/Rice Event



The Hawaii Coalition Against Legalized Gambling (HCALG) is sponsoring an entertaining and informative event entitled, "Don't Gamble With Aloha."

This event is scheduled for February 4, 2003, Tuesday,

from 6:00—8:30 p.m. at Central Union Church.

Frank DeLima is the featured entertainer and Rev. Tom Grey, Executive Director of the National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling, will be the speaker.

The dinner will be chili and rice (meat and vegetarian), tossed green salad and assorted sheet cakes for dessert.

Tickets are \$25.00 per person. (\$20.00 tax deductible).

For reservations, contact the HCALG office at the following numbers: (808) 536-3811, or Dianne Kay at (808) 373-3479, or Judy Rantala at (808) 545-1838. Checks should be made out to HCALG and sent to the main office at 1040 Richards Street, Room 311, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813.

A Word From the Executive Director

As we look back over our first five years of operation, it's clear there have been many victories for Hawaii's families.

From traditional marriage preservation to raising Hawaii's age of sexual consent, from stopping casino gambling and upholding the sanctity of life for our elderly - the

challenges and opportunities have been great. As we begin a new legislative session, the challenges will only increase. So too will the opportunities to get involved for the sake of the family.

We hope you will take the time to become educated about and involved in the key issues impacting out

children, families, neighborhoods and communities.

We know these challenges will always exist but so too will the opportunities. Please feel free to contact our office at 230-2100 if we can be of assistance to you.

Mahalo!

Important Contact Information

To stay up-to-date on all the issues, make sure you “bookmark” the following on your computers internet browser:

www.hawaiiifamilyforum.org
www.HPACC.org
www.capitol.hawaii.gov
www.fotf.org

Throughout the session, call us at (808) 230-2100 if you need additional information on any issue being tracked by HFF.

Getting Actively Involved in the Legislative Process

There are various ways that ordinary citizens can get involved in the legislative process. The key to a successful campaign is grassroots involvement on a wide scale. What this means in a nutshell is—YOU can make a difference!

COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS

In order to communicate most effectively with your legislators, it is crucial to understand the issue under consideration. HFF is committed to assisting you in the process by providing you with the information you need to become more actively involved.

Throughout the legislative session, HFF will provide you with the following:

- ◆ **Legislative Alerts** that give you the status of bill that is scheduled for hearing. This alert will provide you with the names and phone numbers of the legislators that are directly involved in the current decision making process.
- ◆ **Prayer Alerts** that will help you and your church community know what issues are in need of prayer cover;

- ◆ **Praise Reports** that will give you proof that involvement + prayer = success!

KNOWING THE ISSUE

HFF encourages you to:

- ◆ Listen to news broadcasts on radio and television;
- ◆ Read the daily newspapers, church publications, and news magazines;
- ◆ Discuss the issue with family and friends;
- ◆ Encourage your pastor to preach on the issue. HFF can provide sermon notes if you or your pastor is interested;
- ◆ Get talking points and current information from Hawaii Family Forum;
- ◆ Stay in prayer!

IMPORTANT

NOTE: If you do not currently receive our Alerts (via e-mail and/or fax) —then you are NOT on our list.

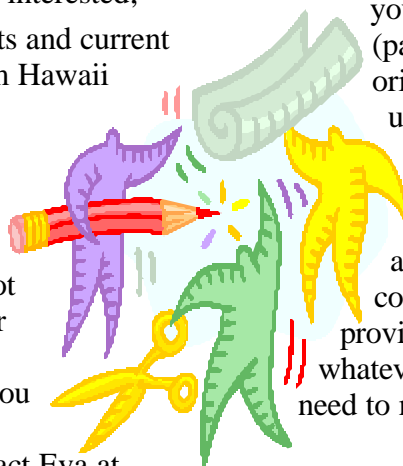
Make sure you contact Eva at (808) 230-2100 or, e-mail us at: info@hawaiiifamilyforum.org and ask to be put on the e-mail and/or fax alert list.

Because hearing notices can be given in as little as 24 hours, we cannot send Legislative Alerts to those who do not have fax or e-mail. We can, however, send Prayer Alerts and Praise Reports.

OTHER RESOURCES

Remember to check our website, www.hawaiiifamilyforum.org, throughout the legislative session. All information is updated on a timely basis.

All material produced by HFF can be Xeroxed and distributed throughout your community. If you have special needs, (paper size / orientation) please let us know. We can reasonably accommodate most requests. As always, we are committed to providing you with whatever information you need to make a difference.



Please contact us if we can be of assistance to you or if you require any further information on any of the resources mentioned above.



6301 Pali Highway
Kaneohe, HI 96744-5224

Phone: (808) 230-2100
Fax: (808) 230-2102
Email: info@hawaiifamilyforum.org



Facing the issues that face Hawaii's families.

Selected 2003 Issues of Hawaii Family Forum

- ◆ **Opposing PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE while supporting BETTER END OF LIFE CARE;**
- ◆ **Cementing Hawaii's AGE OF CONSENT at 16;**
- ◆ **Supporting laws that assist victims of DOMESTIC VIOLENCE;**
- ◆ **Supporting penalties for perpetrators of ELDER ABUSE;**
- ◆ **Opposing CIVIL UNIONS;**
- ◆ **Supporting and promoting ADOPTIONS;**
- ◆ **And others. Please see insert for more information on 2003 bills being monitored by HFF.**

PRAYER REMI NDERS

- ☺ Pray for our newly elected leaders!
- ☺ Pray for the continued efforts of Hawaii Family Forum.
- ☺ Pray that Physician-Assisted Suicide will never become legalized in the State of Hawaii.
- ☺ Pray for the members of HPACC that they will continue to stand strong against mounting opposition.