

This notice is also an official public policy announcement of the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.

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Inside this issue

- [Consider a Gift to Hawaii Family Forum](#)
- [Legislative Session Opens on January 20, 2010](#)
- [voterVOICE for 2010](#)
- [iVOTE Update and Rally](#)
- [March for Life](#)

**Update
VoterVoice
Contact**

Hawaii Family Forum / Hawaii Catholic Conference uses the VoterVoice system to send alerts. When you receive these alerts, this system enables you to make direct contact with your legislators (even if you do not know who they are!). The system also tracks your responses.

From the Desk of Dennis Arakaki, Executive Director

Consider a Gift to Hawaii Family Forum

Hawaii Family Forum will continue to be the vigilant guard at the gates to protect traditional values of faith and family. However, at this time we are also called to be the vanguard and rally the churches to meet the ever growing needs of our communities caused by the economic downturn. We will stand on the solid rock of our faith to proclaim these foundations for action

1. Protecting faith and family values and upholding the sanctity of life
2. Social Justice-Ending hunger in Hawaii in 2010

3. Civic responsibility – every eligible person registered to vote and VOTING!

Hawaii Family Forum and Hawaii Catholic Conference cannot do it on our own and we rely on our churches and the faithful for prayer, manpower and financial support. Mobilizing media campaigns, communications, workshops and planning are always a challenge, especially for a two-person office and no consistent source of funding. We are calling on and counting on you to provide the resource according to what God has called you and your church to provide.



To make a donation securely online, click above.

[Top](#)

Legislative Session Opens on January 20, 2010



Blessings of hope, peace and good health to all of you as we greet this new year and decade. As the 2010 Legislative Session opens, there are many dark clouds that descend upon the Capitol as legislators are challenged with an economy that will require more budget reductions, a need for more revenue, education funding shortfalls and unfinished labor negotiations. With all of these challenges, it is surprising to learn that the legislature is willing to take up controversial issues such as Civil Unions, Physician Assisted Suicide and Legalized Gambling. There are certainly many potential pitfalls that could negatively affect the 2010 elections.

Although the legislature has decided to forgo the traditional festivities of opening day because of the bleak economic outlook, Hawaii Family Forum and Hawaii Catholic Conference is urging the faithful to visit as many legislative offices as possible and sit in on

If you have not done so, please log onto our system by [clicking this link](#). On the top of the link you will see a purple box that says "Returning Users Click Here". You will be prompted to enter the email address (the one that this eNews comes to) and your zip code. It is very simple to do and it will only take a few minutes. If you are Catholic, you will see a box to select "Hawaii Catholic Conference." All other churches please select "Hawaii Family Forum." If you select the Hawaii Catholic Conference, you will receive notices that include national issues and call to action by the United States Conference of Catholic

the sessions or legislative assembly from Opening day on January 20 until the end of January.

If you are able to find time to sit in on the sessions, please wear white and when visiting the various offices, bring a gift of food to present to the legislative staff. For further and instructions and tips on contacting legislators, please visit the Hawaii Family Forum website at <http://www.hawaiifamilyforum.org>.

[Top](#)

Issue Update

voterVOICE for 2010

What is voterVOICE?

Hawaii Family Forum / Hawaii Catholic Conference utilizes a computer program called **voterVOICE**. This internet-based technology program allows us to strengthen grassroots efforts and ensure your voice is as **STRONG** and **LOUD** as it can be with the Hawaii State Legislature as well as Hawaii's Congressional Delegation. It is our goal to increase awareness and educate our lawmakers on a variety of family issues. And we need you to make that a reality!

How does voterVOICE work?

The program allows us to mobilize participants to take political action by sending out (via email):

- "Call to Action" alerts (asking you to call/email/write your leaders as health center issues arise)
- Weekly legislative newsletters
- Pertinent state and local updates and announcements (as applicable)

How do I sign up (or edit my personal information) for voterVOICE?

If you are not already signed up for **voterVOICE**, registration is simple. The registration form asks you questions such as name, e-mail address, fax number and home address. Although you will not be contacted at home, we do need that information so we can accurately pair you with the appropriate legislators.

If you already receive our alerts then you are already signed up through voterVOICE; however, you [MUST click this link](#) to check the

Bishops and the Hawaii Respect Life Office.

By logging on, you will be able to update your information at any time. You will also be able to unsubscribe to this service if you do not wish to receive our alerts any longer.

Another great feature is that you can forward this link to your friends and family and encourage them to sign up as well.

Mahalo for taking the time to update your records.

information we have on file for you. When we ask for action, we humbly request that you do so through the voterVOICE system. That way we have accurate information on the response rate.

When you click [this link](#), there is a section to select “Hawaii Family Forum” and/or “Hawaii Catholic Conference.” You may select both organizations, or just one. We do periodically send out information from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the National Association of State Catholic Conference Directors so if you want to see these national alerts, you will need to select “HCC”.

Will my personal information be shared if I sign up?

Your information is for HFF and/or HCC use only and will not be distributed outside the **voterVOICE** system. **voterVOICE** will not use, or allow any other party to use personal or member data except as needed to implement the **voterVOICE** system. Further, **voterVOICE** will never sell, lease, loan or in any way share personal or member data with another party except the member him/herself, the elected official with whom that member chooses to communicate, or HFF/HCC without prior written consent.

To sign up or to correct/update your information, visit <http://www.voterveice.net/Core.aspx?AID=998&APP=Registration&>.

[Top](#)

Upcoming Events

iVOTE Update and Rally



January 17, 2010
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Hawaii State Capitol

[PDF version of rally flyer](#) | [PDF version of bulletin insert](#) | [Click to view 1 minute promo on YouTube](#) | [Facebook](#) | twitter.com/HIFamilyForum

As mentioned earlier, the Legislature is making plans to pass the Civil Unions Bill (HB 444) early in the 2010 session. We must respond similarly by calling the faithful to stand in opposition to this

deception cloaked in HB 444. It is critical that the masses demonstrate their resolve at what we pray will be the largest gathering at the Capitol at the same time. As one of the planners said, "We need to put the fear of GOD in these legislators."

We know this is true because the turning point for the bill was the gathering of about 12,000 people back in February of 2009, that created doubts in the ranks and caused the HB444 train to derail.

We ask you to be there, wear WHITE not red, bring a canned item to help end hunger in Hawaii, and fully participate at a rally that will be a starting point for change and transformation in favor of the righteous. Encourage your friends and family to do the same.

Visit [our website for more information on the rally](#).

[Top](#)

March for Life

January 22, 2010
3:30 (sign waving) begins
Hawaii State Capitol

[Click here for a flyer \(PDF version\)](#) and [bulletin inserts \(PDF version 8 ½ by 11 mirror image\)](#)

March for Life 2010 will meet at the Capitol Rotunda on Friday, January 22. It will start at 3:30 with a sign waving along the Beretania side. We invite everyone to join us, including students and families. Signs will be provided; those bringing their own signs are requested to be respectful and positive in their portrayals.

The main program will kick off at 4:30 with a welcome address by Father Marc Alexander. We are also pleased that Bishop Larry Silva has agreed to speak at the event this year.

The Knights of Columbus will be leading a march through the Capitol district immediately following the program at approximately 5:30pm.

After the march at 6:15pm, we will have a brief memorial prayer service in observation of lives lost to abortion. You will notice 1,000 luminaries placed on Capitol grounds in their memory as well.

[Top](#)



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