

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

February 2019

President's Byline: Property Tax Hearing



On Wednesday, February 27, 2019 the TX House held a public hearing on the property tax reform bill HB2. It was 11 hours long, and almost 200 people went to Austin to testify. A few weeks before, the State Senate held a similar hearing. As with the Senate, most local elected officials went to Austin on the taxpayers' dime to speak on or against the bill, while residents spoke in favor of the bill. The Mayors of Plano and McKinney spoke on the bill. Plano's Mayor said he had "discomfort with only a 2.5%" increase in revenue. Anything above that would trigger an election for the city to ask the voters if they want to pay more in taxes or not. That is a change in tone for the Mayor who called the bill draconian only a few weeks ago. Perhaps he saw the way McKinney's Mayor was treated by the Senate committee and thought a softer tone would work better.

The Mayor of McKinney also changed his approach from the Senate hearing. At that hearing he was very arrogant. With the house he was more polite and willing to work with the legislature.

Most elected officials had a problem with the 2.5% trigger. Those who spoke on or against the bill complained that a 2.5% increase would not be enough. Of course the first items they said they would cut was police and fire. Why those line items? Simple, they know those are the items people care about most. If elected officials said they would have to cut out the free dinners they get, no one would care.

Some elected officials did speak in favor of the bill. Our very own Collin County Judge Chris Hill, Commissioner Hale, Councilmen Smith and Ricciardelli all spoke in favor of the bill. Unlike most of the elected officials who got to testify early, Councilmen Smith and Ricciardelli testified at around midnight. Councilman Ricciardelli said, "The most local control is the voters." Councilman Ricciardelli did suggest that the state let cities spend the revenue from hotel taxes on infrastructure. Councilman Smith suggested using the municipal inflation index for the trigger. That number is 2.64%. He also said, "Do not leave this year's session without getting something done. The taxpayers have been ignored for too long.

I am very proud of our elected officials who took the time to go down and defend the taxpayers. The local cities have been taking advantage of the increase in property values for too long. While they don't increase the tax rate, they don't decrease the rate enough to lower property tax bills. This is forcing people out of their homes. It is also preventing people from owning homes. Yet, officials still went down to Austin to beg the legislature not to prevent them from raising their residents tax bills as much as they like. So to our officials who went to Austin to speak against the residents, they better not ask us to pay for their trip.

Jennifer Groysman

president@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

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February Plano Republican Women Meeting



Next PRW Meeting:
Tuesday, March 19th, 2019

Speaker: Ross Kecseg
Property Taxes in Texas

Ross Kecseg is the President of Empower Texans. He previously served the organization as Vice President of Local Affairs and Metroplex Bureau Chief. He is a native North Texan, raised in Denton County.

Ross graduated with a degree in Economics from Arizona State University in 2006, with a special emphasis on Public Policy and U.S. Constitutional history.

For nearly a decade, Ross has been active in the Republican Party, grassroots organizing, volunteering for political campaigns, journalism, and as a resource for taxpayers looking to hold state and local officials accountable. Ross regularly speaks to freedom-loving Texans regarding the need for tax and spending reform, government transparency and ethics, and the crucial importance of civic engagement.

Location: [Reflections on Spring Creek](#)

1901 East Spring Creek Parkway

Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in

11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

[PRW membership](#) is not required to attend our meeting

Lunch is available with RSVP for \$20 in cash or check payable to PRW

RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm the Friday before the meeting

RSVPs to attend without lunch may be made up to 5pm the Monday before the Tuesday meeting

To RSVP send an email to: rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org |

include your name in your email and say if you will/will not be having lunch





AMERICANISM REPORT

By Cleo Marchese, Americanism Chair



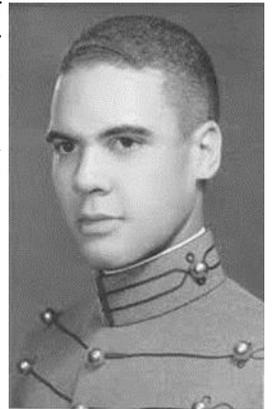
General Benjamin O. Davis Jr.

In observance of black history month, I have decided to write about General Benjamin Oliver Davis, Jr. He was a West Point graduate, African American army officer, Tuskegee Airman, Airforce General and military activist. He was considered a lifelong patriot who put service of country and his fellow man before everything. He was one of the founders of our modern day air force.

Benjamin Oliver Davis, Jr was born Dec 12, 1912 in Washington D.C, the second child of Benjamin O. Davis Sr. and Elnora Dickerson Davis. When he was thirteen in the summer of 1926, a young Benjamin went for a flight with a local barnstorming pilot at Bolling Field in Washington, D.C. Davis said this first flight led to his lifelong love of flying and a determination to become a pilot himself.

He started his undergraduate degree at the University of Chicago then was formally accepted into the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1932. Benjamin was sponsored by Representative Oscar De Priest (R-IL) of Chicago, the only black member of Congress. In his four years at West Point, because of cultural practices at the time, no one would room with him or speak to him except during military exercises or in the line of duty. For any activities off post, he was forced to ride alone on a bus just for him so the other cadets did not have to sit next to him. But Benjamin had plans to be a pilot and would not be deterred. He dealt with the bigotry and graduated 35th in a class of 276, only the fourth black graduate in the academy's history. His tenacity won him the respect of his classmates, he had a special dedication writing about him in the 1936 yearbook, *the Howitzer*.

The courage, tenacity, and intelligence with which he conquered a problem incomparably more difficult than plebe year won for him the sincere admiration of his classmates, and his single-minded determination to continue in his chosen career cannot fail to inspire respect wherever fortune may lead him ~ the Howitzer 1936



Cadet Davis had first applied for the Army Air Corps but was denied because blacks were not accepted into the Airmen Corp. After graduation he went to the Army instead, making him one of only two black officers in the US Army in 1936. The first was his father, Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. but patriotism ran strong in his family so this did not trouble him. As a cadet in his third year, Davis had previously applied for the Army Air Corps but was denied because the Army Air Corp did not accept blacks at the time.

His first posting as a 2nd lieutenant was to the all-black 24th Infantry Regiment, one of the original Buffalo Soldier regiments at Fort Benning, Georgia. He said one of the most hurtful snubs of his career was not being allowed inside the base officers' club. He later attended the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, and then was reassigned to teach military tactics at Tuskegee Institute, a historically black college. Something his father had done before him, it was also the army's way of avoiding black officers command white soldiers.

In response to public pressure for more blacks in the military in 1941, Roosevelt administration ordered the War Dept. to commission an all-black flying unit. This unit was the Tuskegee Airman, training was at Tuskegee Army Air Field. Davis graduated in the first class as airmen in March of 1942. Later that same year, he commanded a group of Tuskegee Airmen despite critics and efforts by other army officers to keep the Tuskegee airman from heavy combat. Davis's group were allowed to fly and engage the enemy in the summer of September 1943.

The airmen commanded by Lt. Colonel Davis had an outstanding combat record against the German Luftwaffe in the European during World War II. They shot down 111 planes and destroyed or damaged 273 on the ground at a cost of more than 70 pilots killed in action or missing. They never lost a U.S. bomber to enemy fighters on their escort missions. As the leader of numerous missions, Colonel Davis later received the Silver Star in June 9, 1944 for a strafing run into Austria and the Distinguished Flying Cross for a bomber-escort mission to Munich.

Continued on Page 4



AMERICANISM REPORT

By Cleo Marchese, Americanism Chair

Continued from Page 3

In July 1948, President Harry Truman signed Executive Order 9981, for the integration of the armed forces. Davis helped draft an Air Force blueprint for integration that went into effect in 1949. His leadership in World War II of America's only all-black air units helped speed the integration of the Air Force. In 1954 he became its first black general. In his autobiography, "**Benjamin O. Davis Jr.: American**," Davis spoke of the pressures, hardships and racism he and the Tuskegee Airmen faced. He mentioned, "*We would go through any ordeal that came our way, be it in garrison existence or combat, to prove our worth.*"

General Davis served at the Pentagon and in overseas posts for the next two decades. In 1953, he saw combat again as the commander of the 51st Fighter-Interceptor Wing (51 FIW) and flew an F-86 Sabre in Korea. From 1954 to 1955, he became the vice commander of Thirteenth Air Force (13 AF), with additional duties as commander of Air Task Force 13 (Provisional) in Taipei. By 1955 he was director of operations and training at Far East Air Forces Headquarters in Tokyo. During his time in Tokyo, he was temporarily promoted to brigadier general. In April 1957 General Davis was transferred to Ramstein Air Base in Germany, as chief of staff for the Twelfth Air Force (12 AF), U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE). Later that year, he became the Deputy Chief of staff for operations to the USAFE Headquarters at Wiesbaden Air Base in Germany. While in Germany he was temporarily promoted to major general in 1959, and his promotion to brigadier general was made permanent by 1960. He returned the United States in July 1961 as the Director of Manpower and Organization, and Deputy Chief of staff for Programs and Requirements. He gained the three stars of a lieutenant general in May 1965 when he was the chief of staff for U.S. Armed forces in South Korea.



Davis retired from military service in 1970 and served briefly as director of public safety in Cleveland, Ohio and transferred to the Federal Sky Marshall program where he directed policies for anti-hijacking. In 1971, he transfer to the Department of Transportation as the Assistant Secretary of Transportation for Environment, Safety, and Consumer Affairs. Where he oversaw the development of airport security and highway safety for until 1975. After leaving the Department of Transportation, in 1978 he went to serve on the American Battle Monuments Commission like his father decades before him. In 1991, he published his autobiography, **Benjamin O. Davis Jr.: American** In December 1998, President Bill Clinton awarded him a fourth star, the military's highest peacetime rank. He was a great man who unfortunately died alone from complications of advanced Alzheimer's on the Fourth of July in 2002, at Walter Reed Army Medical Center at the age of 89. General Davis's life partner and wife Agatha passed early that year on March 10th. He was later buried on July 17th at Arlington National Cemetery with full honors. A Red Tail P-51 Mustang, like the one he had flown in World War II flew over his funeral service. Former President Bill Clinton said at his service, "General Davis is here today as proof that a person can overcome adversity and discrimination, achieve great things, turn skeptics into believers; and through example and perseverance, one person can bring truly amazing change."

Trivia:

Davis was one of the chief proponents of the 55 mile per hour speed limit to save gasoline and lives. He personally spoke before congress about the advantages of the National Speed Limit Law or Drive 55 campaign.

Davis flew as an Army pilot during WWII and for the Air Force for the Korean and Vietnam War because the United States Air Force was not created until September 18, 1947 by the National Security Act.

He is also considered one of the founders of the Air Force because he advocated for a separate aviation branch of the military and wrote many of the policies and procedures for parts of the Air Force and Davis was the first black Air force general.

In the August 2017, Davis Barrack was opened at the West Point, the United States Military Academy. It house cadets from First Regiment.

The Air Force shares a birthday with the CIA. The National Security Act of 1947 completely reorganized the national security apparatus of the United States. It separated the Army Air Forces from the Army, and made it an equal branch of the military—the U.S. Air Force. The bill also created the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the National Security Council, and the Central Intelligence Agency. Notably, Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 into law on what would become the first plane to be designated as Air Force One.

Political Cartoons

IF A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN SCARES YOU...



BUT TERRORISTS COMING ACROSS OUR BORDER DOESN'T, YOU'RE A SPECIAL KIND OF STUPID

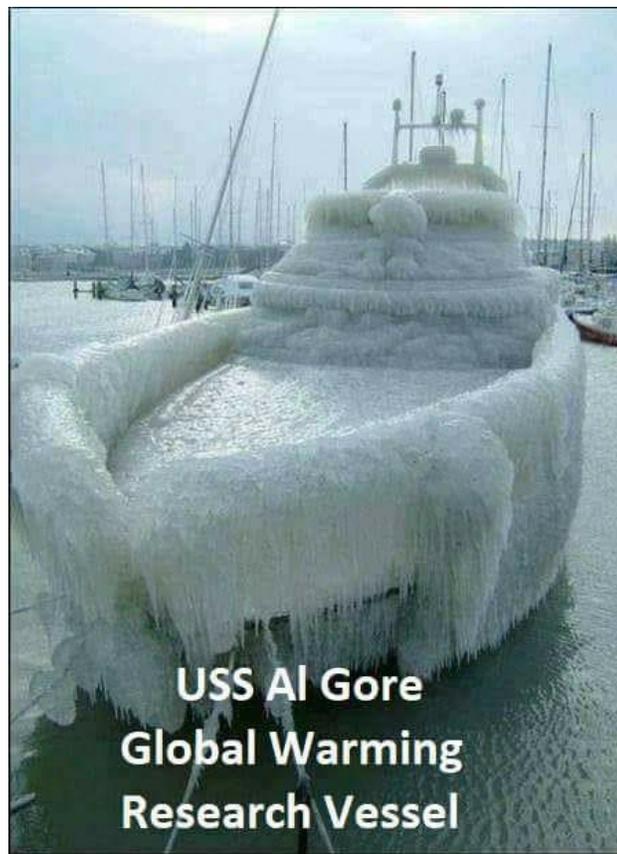
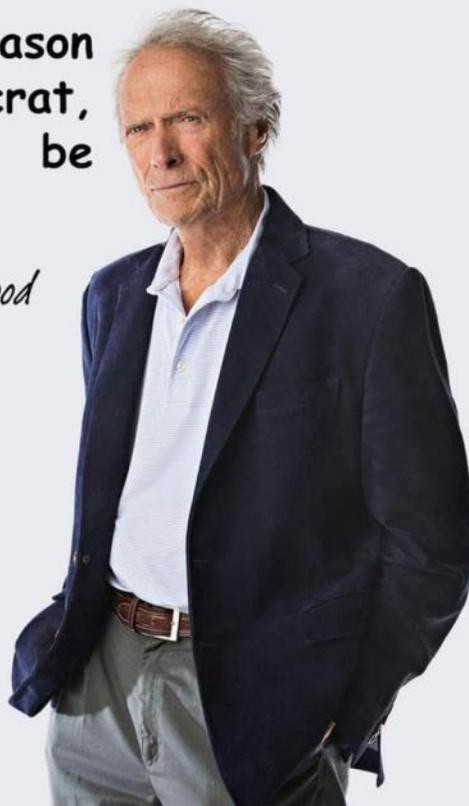
IT'S CALLED A JOKE



WE USED TO TELL THEM BEFORE PEOPLE BECAME OFFENDED BY EVERYTHING..

If you could reason with a democrat, there wouldn't be any democrats.

Clint Eastwood



**USS Al Gore
Global Warming
Research Vessel**

The Dark Resurgence of SOCIALISM

Robert B. Charles, The AMAC Magazine Jan/Feb. 2019

A Grim History

History is a riveting teacher, instructing with incontrovertible facts. A short tour of the last hundred years—with eyewitness corroboration—reveals what Americans should understand about socialism's false promises and the fact that, without exception, socialism fails—and always will. Hatched in the mid-1800s, advanced by Karl Marx, later Vladimir Lenin in Russia (still later by Stalin) and Mao Zedong in China, socialism hypothesizes that mankind can create Utopia. Who could not be for that? Ingredients: Government control over means of production, public ownership of all property. In theory, that combination allows redistribution of wealth, ends poverty and produces—well—heaven on earth.

Overlooked are details—human nature, where wealth comes from, command and control inefficiencies, how society functions without individual incentives and freedoms—on the way to Utopia. Under socialism, a “benevolent” government dictates terms of life, education (defined by collective need) to professions, well being (with equality superseding liberty) to family (i.e. one child policy in China), travel (i.e. no escape) to associations (i.e. no unauthorized groups), as well as political dialogue—with progressive penalties for stepping out of line.

Why these protocols? Because free speech (i.e. criticizing socialism) and individuality are, by definition, “dangerous.” Per Marx, socialism cannot be achieved without suppressing the annoying tendency of individuals to prefer making choices. Allowing choice based on individuality creates inequality, as people's choices produce different outcomes. Socialism despises individuality. There is no room for “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,” except for those administering “Utopia.”

What does socialist Utopia look like? Answer: The former Soviet Union, Communist East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Albania, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia, along with the People's Republic of China, Laos, North Vietnam, Cuba, Afghanistan, Benin, Cambodia, North Korea, Somalia, and South Yemen. All delivered depravity, poverty, pain and despair—without freedom.

Start with the mortality, or how socialist countries enforce law in “Utopia.” Grim, but true, historian R. J. Rummel assesses that 110 million people were killed by their own socialist governments between 1900 and 1987. Non-combatants killed by the Soviets, People's Republic of China, and Cambodia range up to 70 million, says historian Benjamin Valentino (2005).

Soviet economic collapse, in retrospect, seems inevitable. But every socialist country behind the Iron Curtain collapsed politically, too. Socialist Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, of course, collapsed entirely—vanishing as nations, while others were reintegrated into the free West. Today, Laos, North Vietnam (former), Cuba, Afghanistan, Benin, Cambodia, North Korea, Somalia and South Yemen remain the most impoverished countries in the world, war-torn, repressive, reflexively imprisoning political critics. Venezuela is a basket case. China's reeducation camps, currently holding millions of Chinese (for religious convictions) are a hallmark of socialism, and of atheist China.

As someone who spent time behind The Iron Curtain, and later overseas as an Assistant Secretary of State, socialism's reality is harsh. Numbers are jarring, experiences more jarring. The punctuate historical truth.

In the early 1980s, attending Oxford University, I travelled behind Winston Churchill's Iron Curtain three times. Freedom could not get in, and millions could not get out. Those who tried were shot. White crosses beside the Berlin Wall made the point: Centralizing governments gradually suspend, repress and destroy individual freedom. I saw it as Poland's Solidarity Movement struggled to tear loose from Communism, got hit by martial law. Similar crackdowns occurred in East Germany (1948), Hungary (1956), Czechoslovakia (1967) and Tiananmen Square, China (1989).

Spontaneity was dead, in its place fear. Freedom of speech, associations, press and religion were dangerous.

In 1983, two experiences punctuated socialism's ruthless nature. Experience one: An underground leader whom I had met had his home ransacked; they missed his trapdoor. Two: Leaving Poland by train in 1983 via East Germany, I got searched—with dogs, guns and humorless officers—16 times. “Class warfare” cares nothing for the individual.

As long as youth know truth, individual liberty will withstand socialism's lies. Two uplifting events make the point. After walking by Solidarity leader Lech Walesa's apartment, I made my way to a giant cross in Gdansk—commemorating those killed by the Communists. Every night Poles placed flowers beneath that cross. Every day, secret police removed them. Every dawn, they were back.

Then one Sunday, thousands of Poles poured from churches and marched to that same cross, rising beside Gdansk's shipyards. The Communist government deployed armed officers. The people's chants would not be stopped. And what were they chanting? “Reagan will show you, Reagan will show you...” He did. America's freedom was a beacon.

Next time someone professes socialism or the goodness of progressive centralized control, remind them of history. Tell them you prefer the Bill of Rights. Mention those brave Poles who knew Ronald Reagan's abiding truth: “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.” If we teach and remember, we will never lose it.

Robert B. Charles was the former Assistant Secretary of State under Colin Powell, former naval intelligence officer, Reagan and Bush 41 staffer, and attorney. He is author of the recently released book *Eagles and Evergreens* (North County Press, 2018), celebrating small town American values, and the influence of WWII and Korean War veterans on a small town in Maine.

CARING FOR AMERICA - 2018 Report

By Marvelle Ditto, Chair, January 8, 2019

PROJECT

Overseas Coupon Program

(to Osan Air Force Base;
Pyeongtaek, South Korea)

RESULT

488 coupons sent=
approx.. \$488.00

Patriot Paws

\$525.00 donated

Operation Christmas Cards for Troops

(sent to Task Force; Sinai, Egypt)

50 cards

Plano Christmas Cops

(new toys used by the Plano Police and
Fire Departments throughout the year)

36 new toys



Join Congressman Van Taylor and Congressman Dan Crenshaw

CCRP 51st Lincoln Day Dinner

March 30th, 2019

Delta Hotels by Marriott Dallas Allen & Watters Creek Convention Center

777 Watters Creek Boulevard, Allen, Texas 75013



We are pleased to participate with the other local Republican clubs in sponsoring Grassroots America to stop in Collin County on **Saturday, April 6 2019**, as part of their "Stop Election Fraud - Protect YOUR Vote" Roadshow. Please put this event on your calendars and encourage other patriots to attend!

Saturday, April 6, 2019

1:45 PM - 4:30 PM

Collin College Higher Education Center, Board Room*
3452 TX-399 Spur, McKinney



Legislative Report

Legislative Update from Texas Representative Jeff Leach

Things are really picking up as we wrap-up week eight of the 86th Legislature. Below are some quick legislative highlights from the week, including a few sneak peaks of what to expect the following week!

Property Tax Reform - This past Wednesday, the House Committee on Ways & Means heard public testimony on House Bill 2 - a sweeping measure which would reform and strengthen taxpayer protections for Texas property owners. Members of the committee include Collin County's very own - Representative Scott Sanford, Representative Matt Shaheen & Representative Candy Noble. Our community is uniquely equipped with excellent representation on this critical committee, and we are fortunate to have these taxpayer champions serving on our behalf.

School Finance - The Texas House has been hard at work crafting a school finance plan that reforms our antiquated system of school finance, while significantly investing in public education and reining in our state's flawed system of "Robin Hood." You can expect the Texas House to lay out our school finance plan this Tuesday, so be sure to stay tuned for updates!

[House Bill 540](#) - This important legislation honors the life and legacy of Officer David Sherrard, whose life ended tragically on February 7, 2018 in the line of duty while responding to a disturbance call in the City of Richardson. Through private donations, the bill would authorize the renaming of Highway 75 in Richardson the "Officer David Sherrard Memorial Highway." It is my hope that this memorial will bring a sense of joy to his family and honor and pride to his fellow officers who continue to serve us faithfully and courageously each day. This bill is scheduled for a public hearing in the House Committee on Transportation this Wednesday, March 6th.

[House Bill 1342](#) - As a former member of the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence, my passion for criminal justice reform remains strong. This is why I believe it is past time to pass House Bill 1342 into law. This commonsense measure enables certain Texans with non-violent criminal records an opportunity to gain meaningful employment and become productive members of society. For example, four in ten Texans with an arrest or conviction face various obstacles returning to the workforce. House Bill 1342 would allow the state to grant an occupational license to individuals with a non-violent criminal record - so long as the license does not relate to the crime.

[House Bill 2527](#) - This transparency bill ensures that certain water districts in Texas conduct audio-visual recordings of their open meetings. Further, it directs these districts to produce recordings online for public viewing. This bill would apply to the North Texas Municipal Water District, and I believe it goes a long way to restore transparency for Collin County citizens.

Legislative Update from Congressman Van Taylor

Congressman Taylor Cosponsors Legislation to Reassert Congressional Control of the Purse

On February 8, 2019, Congressman Taylor cosponsored H.R. 850, the Agency Accountability Act. This bill would require that any funds generated by agency fees, fines, penalties, or proceeds be deposited into the Treasury general fund subject to regular Congressional appropriations. This legislation will ensure better Congressional oversight of agency actions and eliminate the adverse incentive for agency bureaucrats to create new fines and penalties in order to fund internal agency efforts.

Congressman Taylor Votes for Bill to Allow Entrepreneur Participation in Innovative Corps

On February 25, 2019, Congressman Taylor voted in support of H.R. 539, the Innovators to Entrepreneurs Act. This bill would modify the National Science Foundation's Innovation Corps program in order to allow small businesses to receive training through the program. In its current form, the Innovation Corps program helps prepare scientists and engineers to commercialize their research. Allowing entrepreneurs into this program will help boost job growth and improve American competitiveness.

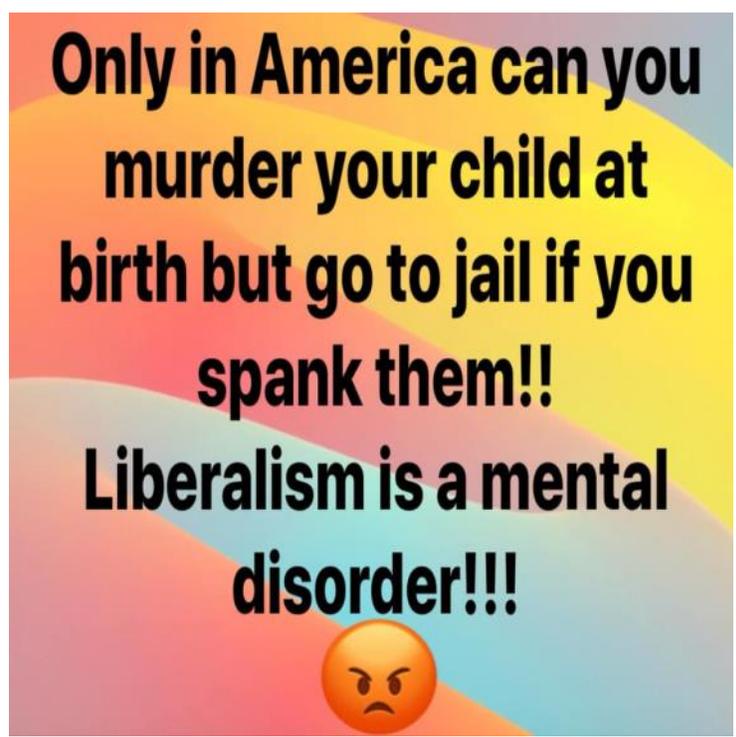
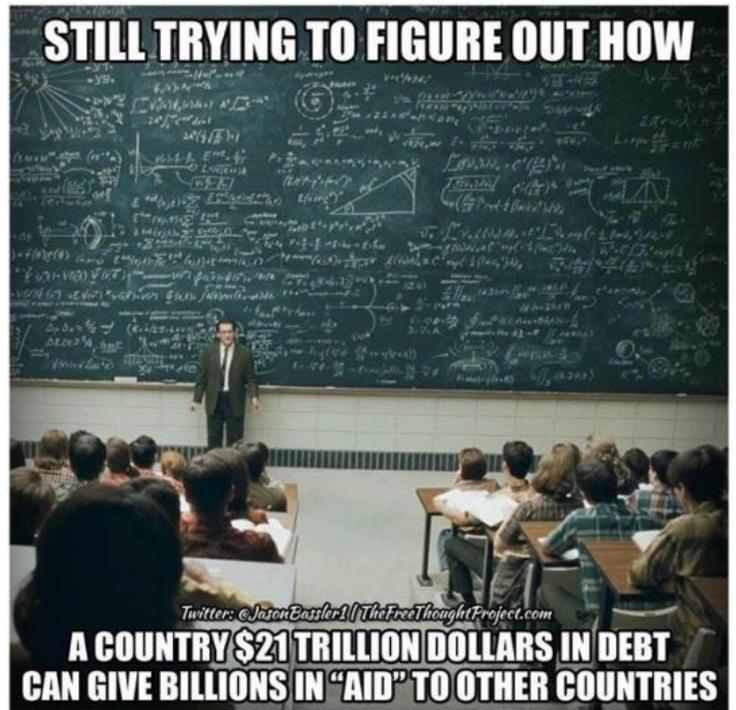
Congressman Taylor Supports Veterans Entering into STEM Careers

On February 25, 2019, the House passed H.R. 425, the Supporting Veterans in STEM Careers Act. Congressman Taylor supports this bill which would refocus several STEM scholarship and fellowship grant programs to more effectively offer their opportunities to veterans. Under this bill, the National Science Foundation must increase its outreach to veterans.

Congressman Taylor Opposes Irresponsible Appropriations Package

On February 14, 2019, Congressman Taylor voted against H.J.Res. 31, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019. Lumping together many of Washington's worst traits, this bill spent approximately \$328 billion buried in 1,200 pages with less than 24 hours to review. This resolution passed the Senate by a vote of 83-16, and passed the House by a vote of 300-128 on February 14, 2019, and was signed into law by President Trump on February 15, 2019.

Political Cartoons



Dems Seek to Purge Constitution From Election Process

By Jordon Chandler, January 30, 2019 for Patriot Post

The Left wants to federalize voting law so as to disenfranchise Red States.

It didn't get much play, but on Jan. 3, Democrats introduced the For the People Act of 2019 in the 116th Congress. This bill purports "To expand Americans' access to the ballot box, reduce the influence of big money in politics, and strengthen ethics rules for public servants, and for other purposes." Unfortunately, "for the people" is a misnomer. In truth, this bill is "for the Democrats."

Investor's Business Daily says, "Far-left media advocates for the Democrats' have benignly called the proposed new law 'election reform', claimed it 'could save American Democracy' and characterized it as 'a sweeping anti-corruption proposal.' It is none of those things. Instead, H.R.1, the new law's official designation, is a shocking power grab on the part of the Democrats who seek to nationalize all elections so they can permanently silence the Red States that stand in their way. It does so by transferring most of the power over elections to the federal government, and taking it away from the states, as the Constitution requires."

On Jan. 29, the Conservative Action Project unveiled an opposition memo, which Investor's explains is cosigned by "some 154 conservative former government officials, think tank heads, writers and activists."

The memo reveals that the legislation "would allow the Federal Election Commission to track and catalogue more of what Americans are saying, register even very small political donations, and make public those who donate to different charitable and nonprofit organizations."

Furthermore, "H.R. 1 reasserts the ability of the federal government to micromanage state elections through a process known as 'preclearance.' Preclearance, which was previously overturned by the Supreme Court, requires states to get permission from the federal government for changes as small as modifying the hours of an election office, or moving a voting location from a school gym to the library."

As if that's not bad enough, "The Federal Election Commission, which is currently a neutral body, would be given a 3-2 makeup, guaranteeing a partisan outcome with little accountability toward the actual votes which are cast. H.R. 1 also includes a 600 percent government match for political donations, and authorizes even more public dollars to campaigns. The bill also wants to make Election Day a new paid holiday for government workers, with additional paid vacation given to bureaucrats to oversee the polls. All of these changes are designed to distance the outcome of the election from those casting their votes."

The memo further explains that voter registration would become mandatory; all felons would be permitted to vote; early voting would be protracted; same-day voter registration would be required; the ability to cross-reference voters from different states would be hamstrung; election observers would be free from having to assist in cases related to election abnormalities; political speech that may dissuade a person's voting would be outlawed; states would be forbidden from legislating mail-in votes; chief election officials partaking in federal election campaigns would be made illegal; absentee ballots would become "free"; and redistricting commissions would be necessitated.

The cosignees warn that "H.R. 1 would cause sweeping and irrevocable damage to the free speech, privacy, and integrity that are central components to free and fair elections in America." Investor's adds, "It's a blatantly unconstitutional Democratic attempt to create a permanent national majority, a one-party leftist state. That would freeze out Republicans, conservatives, libertarians and even most Independents." Of course, neither the GOP Senate nor President Donald Trump would ever sign off on the For the People Act of 2019. But this is the mother of all omens. And it signals some of what Democrats hope to achieve if future elections tilt their way.

It would, for all intents and purposes, be the most damaging attack yet on our Republic and accelerate — perhaps irreversibly — its demise.



House Democrats Block Request to Vote on Bill to Stop Infanticide For a Fourth Time

STEVEN ERTELT FEB 12, 2019

For the fourth time in four legislative days, House Democrats blocked a request by Republicans to vote on a bill that would stop infanticide.

This is the fifth time Congressional Democrats thwarted an attempt by Republicans to vote on a bill that would provide medical care and treatment for babies who survive failed abortions — four times in the House and once in the Senate.

As LifeNews reported, pro-abortion Senator Patty Murray blocked a vote on a bill from pro-life Republican Senator Ben Sasse of Nebraska that would stop infanticide nationwide. Then, Democrats blocked Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy's unanimous consent request to vote on the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act.

After that, House Minority Whip Steve Scalise asked Democrats to allow a vote on what should be a noncontroversial bill. They refused.

"Before the entire House, I asked for immediate consideration of a bill that protects infants born alive during abortions. But Democrats rejected my motion and refused to consider it. Why won't they go on record and tell the American people where they stand on infanticide?" Scalise asked on Twitter following the denial.

Then, pro-life Congresswoman Ann Wagner of Missouri asked the House for unanimous consent to bring up the bill to stop infanticide. House Democrats blocked it.

The blocking of a vote on a bill to stop infanticide come even as national polling shows Americans — including people who are "pro-choice" on abortion — oppose abortion up to birth and infanticide. And doctors indicate abortions are never needed to protect a woman's health and women admit having abortions on healthy babies.

House Republicans will bring up the request to vote on the Born Alive bill every day for the next 30 days. Their measure is comparable to the Senate bill that for abortion Senator Patty Murray objected to earlier this week.

The vote would come after Virginia Governor Ralph Northam endorsed infanticide on a radio show last week.

"Yesterday, Speaker Pelosi took the President of the nation's largest abortion business to the State of the Union address and today she's blocking legislation that makes it illegal to leave a newborn baby to die. This is morally repugnant. Passing the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act shouldn't be hard — there are only two sides to this debate: you're defending babies or you're defending infanticide," Senator Sasse told LifeNews after yesterday's denial.

The House Republican leaders also said they will be working on a petition that would bring the bill to the floor of the house for a vote over speaker Nancy Pelosi's objections.

Today, Representative Ann Wagner (R-Mo.) announced the re-introduction of the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, legislation designed to ensure any infant born alive after an abortion receives the same protection of law as any newborn: mandating care and instituting penalties for doctors who allow such infants to die or who intentionally kill a newborn.

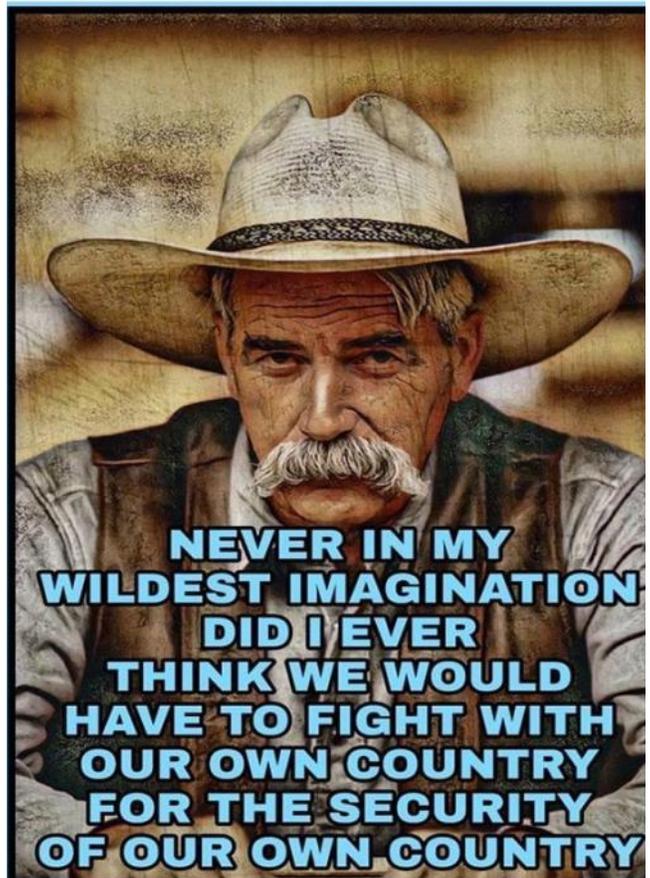
House Republican Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.), an original cosponsor, will introduce a resolution providing for floor consideration of Wagner's legislation. After 30 legislative days, Whip Scalise and Rep. Wagner will file a discharge petition that would force a vote in the U.S. House of Representatives upon being signed by a majority of members of the House.

"Innocent life must be defended and protected at every stage, and that includes babies born alive during an abortion. We must immediately extend legal protections to these vulnerable newborns and prosecute any doctor who would leave them to die," said Whip Scalise.

He added: "I introduced this resolution to begin the process of forcing a vote on Congresswoman Wagner's important piece of legislation, especially after horrific actions taken in New York and Virginia to permit infanticide. The silence from Congressional Democrats is deafening and shameful. Every Member of Congress, regardless of party, needs to go on record against infanticide, and we must immediately take action to stop it. The American people deserve to know where their representatives stand on this critical issue."

Continued on Page 12

Political Cartoons



The Bible and American Presidents

In light of the attacks on Christianity in our nation, included comments by Barack Hussein Obama that the United States was not founded as a Christian nation, I wanted to include a few quotes of previous Presidents regarding the Bible, Christianity and our nation. These came from IF My People, A Prayer Guide for our Nation. Catherine Gibb

*Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet anchor of your liberties. Write its precepts in your hearts, and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this book are we indebted for all the progress made in true civilization, and to this we must look as our guide in the future. Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people. **Ulysses S. Grant, 18th President***

*The Bible is the one supreme source of revelation of the meaning of life, the nature of God, and spiritual nature and needs of man. It is the only guide of life which really leads the spirit in the way of peace and salvation. America was born a Christian nation, America was born to exemplify that devotion to the elements of righteousness which are derived from the revelations of the Holy Scriptures. **Woodrow Wilson, 29th President***

*The strength of our country is the strength of its religious convictions...The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country. **Calvin Coolidge, 30th President***

*We cannot read the history of our rise and development as a Nation without reckoning with the place the Bible has occupied in shaping the advances of the Republic.... Where we have been the truest and most consistent in obeying its precepts, we have attained the greatest measure of contentment and prosperity. **Franklin Roosevelt, 32nd President***

*Inside the Bible's pages lie all the answers to all the problems man has ever known.... It is my firm belief that the enduring values presented in its pages have a great meaning for each of us and for our nation. The Bible can touch our hearts, order our minds, and refresh our souls. **Ronald Reagan, 40th President***



House Democrats Block Request to Vote on Bill to Stop Infanticide For a Fourth Time

Continued from Page 11

"I have been horrified to watch radical Democratic legislators argue that babies who survive abortions should not be given the same level of medical care that all other newborn babies receive." said Representative Wagner.

She added: "Congress must act to protect those who cannot protect themselves. That is why I introduced the Born Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which merely ensures that babies who survive abortions receive immediate, lifesaving care—just as any other baby would. To my colleagues, this is the simplest vote you will ever take: either you support babies being killed after they are born or you don't. It is time to go on the record and make clear if you think babies born alive deserve medical care, or if you think they should be left to die."

The legislation requires that health care practitioners who are present at the live birth exercise skill, care, and diligence to preserve the life and health of the child—the same degree of care that would be offered to any other child born prematurely the same gestational age. After those efforts, the health care workers must transport and admit the child to a hospital.

It also requires health care practitioners and hospital employees to report violations to law enforcement authorities, reducing the number of born-alive abortions that go unreported.

The law penalizes the intentional killing of a born-alive child through fines or up to 5 years imprisonment and it gives the mother of the abortion survivor a civil cause of action and protection from prosecution, recognizing that women are the second victims of abortion and promoting the dignity of motherhood.

Left Wing Lunacy for January

Frank Aquila, February 2, 2019

January started out with the Democrats refusing to fund security barriers along portions of the U.S. – Mexico border where 97 percent of illegal aliens are known to use. The Democrats demanded President Trump to reopen the government with a promise to negotiate; but after President Trump reopened the government, the Democrats, led by Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer, went back on their word. Both Nancy and Chuck have been in office since the 1980's and despite past statements of the need for border security, all of a sudden, they feel it is not necessary and racist. The State of the Union was delayed with Nancy citing "security" reasons; but does not seem to be concern about the security of thousands of Americans who lost their loved ones to those coming here illegally each year. Instead Nancy vacationed in Hawaii and the Democrats vacation in Puerto Rico during the shutdown. In the meantime, a veteran's health care bill and a proposal to pay our Coast Guard and other federal workers during the government shutdown was blocked by Democrats.

As Democrats were sworn into office, many refused to provide their oath to God on a Bible and the Democrats then nearly removed the oath "so help me God." Democrat Rashida Tlaib, who not only refused to take an oath to God, stated, "We are going to impeach that 'Mother F---ker'" in reference to President Trump. This same Democrat also refuses to recognize Israel as a nation calling for it to be taken over by Palestine. The Democrat darling, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has called for a seventy percent tax on wealthy Americans to support Socialism. They seem bent on destroying the Constitution and eliminating the Electoral College as the means for electing presidents. The Democrats then shut down the Terrorism Committee to create a Trump Investigation Panel.

In New York, Bill de Blasio guaranteed free health care to illegal aliens and in California, Governor Gavin Newsom's first Executive Order was to expand health care to illegal aliens and provide "sanctuary to all who seeks it". It seems they will need it, as the numbers of cases of tuberculosis and flu cases have soared from those coming here illegally, including a flesh eating bacteria. To pay for this, Representative Aguiar-Curry introduced a bill to create new property and sales taxes and Newsom has moved to tax the drinking water. SB 239 was signed into law making it no longer a felony to knowingly expose someone else to the HIV virus. After California forced parents to vaccinate all children through SB277, the Democrats have now pushed to pass SB792 to force all adults to receive mandatory government vaccinations. California Democrats also nearly passed AB-3042, which would have replaced the recognition of Abraham Lincoln's birthday with the Communist International Worker's Day as a holiday. That bill was defeated 27-22. The California State Senate Committee has also banned the words, "he" and "she" during hearings and California will also mandate teachers to teach Kindergarteners that there are 15 different genders using the book, "Who are you?" Just because Democrats are confused about who is male and female, they should not be confusing the children.

While Democrats claim to be concern of children, they have passed laws allowing abortions even to, and through the child's birth. Virginia Governor Northam even suggested that if the baby is born, there would be a "discussion" of what to do with it, suggesting that the baby would be left to die. This is the same governor who was caught wearing a black face next to a KKK member in his yearbook. Not surprisingly, Fake News CNN referred to the governor as a Republican, knowing he is a Democrat.

There have been several cases of Voter Fraud in Texas with 95,000 illegal aliens registered to vote and 58,000 discovered to have already voted. There were also 11,000 illegal aliens registered to vote in Pennsylvania. There were also 1.5 million inactive voters revealed in Los Angeles County alone that were removed after Judicial Watch won a lawsuit forcing officials to comply with requirements under the National Voter Registration Act.

This is just a bit of the left-wing lunacy from Democrats in January. The Democrat party has clearly put Abortion over life, illegal aliens over citizens and veterans, and can't even recognize the difference between a male and a female.

Frank Aquila is president of the South San Joaquin Republican and author of the book, "Sarah Palin Out of Nowhere". He can be emailed at mantecarepublicans@yahoo.com



LEFTISM - NOT JUST WRONG, BUT EVIL

February 8, 2019 Mark Tapson

We cannot afford a lack of moral clarity in our political civil war.

Conservative commentator Dennis Prager once made an insightful distinction between the political left and right. The right, he noted, generally sees the left as wrong but not evil, whereas the left sees the right not merely as wrong but as evil. This was a valid assessment once upon a time, but as the left has increasingly exposed itself in the Trump era as rabidly illiberal, irrational, and immoral, it is time for the right to acknowledge that the *left* is not merely wrong, but evil.

What *is* evil? Let us set theological explanations aside for the moment and settle on a practical definition upon which most can agree: if cruelty means the willful disregard for human suffering, even taking *pleasure* in inflicting suffering on others, then evil is profound cruelty. It is a malevolence so dark and bottomless that ordinary people cannot fathom it. Psychologists may prefer less highly-charged terms to describe people who commit unconscionable acts, but evil is as evil does, and what leftism has done over and over again throughout history and around the world is provide a worldview which justifies perpetrating unimaginable horrors on untold numbers of victims.

To be clear: evil is hardly the sole domain of the left. It can inhabit individuals of any color, sex, political persuasion, or religious belief. But as an ideology, Progressivism – the rebranding of Communism – embraces totalitarianism and absolute statist control, which always and everywhere leads to misery, corruption, and brutality, and *never* elevates humanity. Can anyone look objectively at the ghastly devastation wrought by Communism in the 20th century – the gulags and the mass starvation, the torture and executions, the existential fear and hopelessness, the tens of millions dead and countless more lives destroyed – and not conclude that leftism is an ideology of evil? Add to that its unholy alliance with fundamentalist Islam today to subvert the whole of Western civilization, and there can be no doubt.

At the core of the true leftist is a hatred for anyone and anything that stands in the way of his or her lust for power over others: the nuclear family, Christianity, the Constitution, Donald Trump, etc. As David Horowitz had noted on numerous occasions, during a presidential debate in October 2016, candidate Trump spoke more naked truth about leftists than any establishment Republican would ever have dared when he said that his opponent Hillary Clinton had “tremendous hate in her heart.”

Let us zero in on specific, recent examples of the left's cruel methodology. Keep in mind that the contemporary leftist, like Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, has been mentored either directly or indirectly by the influential, Mephistophelean strategist Saul Alinsky and his book *Rules for Radicals*, whose thirteenth and final rule has transformed the left's entire *modus operandi* into the politics of personal destruction: “Pick the target, freeze it, personalize it, and polarize it.” Alinsky dedicated his book, as you may recall, to Lucifer.

Nothing has demonstrated this evil stratagem quite as starkly recently as Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's confirmation hearings last fall, which degenerated into a circus of demonic behavior by leftists gleefully determined to destroy Kavanaugh and his family over a single, decades-old, unsubstantiated accusation of sexual assault. The sick smears from even the mainstream media that Kavanaugh was a gang rapist, belligerent drunk, and pedophile helped wake up many people to the boundless cruelty in which the left revels.

Similarly, the left pounced on the opportunity to demonize and destroy the Covington Catholic high school kids involved in a more recent controversy completely manufactured by the left-dominated media. Trump-deranged former comedienne Kathy Griffin called for their doxing. Late-night talk show hosts, Twitter's blue-checked media elites, and leftist pundits like disgraced Islam apologist Reza Aslan “joked” about punching the face of Nick Sandmann, the white 16-year-old at the center of the controversy. He and his family received death threats. One could list dozens of examples of Trump supporters victimized by leftist violence over the last two or more years. Add to this the persecution of conservative students and visiting speakers in universities, the nihilist thuggery of Antifa, and the lawfare of LGBT activists out to destroy Christian bakers and photographers, and can anyone claim that the left's collective heart is not, as Trump said of Hillary's, full of hate?

More examples: Virginia politicians including Governor Ralph Northam recently repulsed countless Americans for casually endorsing the abortion of babies all the way up to literally the moment of birth *and even beyond*. Fox News' Tucker Carlson brought Monica Klein, the co-founder of a political messaging firm called Seneca Strategies, on his show to ask her opinion of this shocking pro-abortion extremism, and for the entirety of the nearly four-minute segment Klein belligerently stonewalled his question, hurling irrational accusations and predictable Democrat Party talking points, refusing to address third trimester abortions except to fiercely defend a woman's right to discard her child. If the left is so literally hell-bent on having the right to put an infant – not a mere “clump of cells” but a live infant *outside* the mother's womb – to death, then there is no moral limit to what they will do in service to their satanic vision.

The Democrat Party is the face of Moloch, the Canaanite god whom Milton called the “horrid King besmear'd with blood / Of human sacrifice.” It is a cult of criminality and death. On every political issue, Democrats take the side of chaos and destruction, crime and disorder. They hype the threat of white supremacism while whitewashing Islamic terrorism. They are actively engaged in erasing our history and undermining our rights. They support open borders over national security; sanctuary cities for criminal aliens and the abolishment of ICE over law-abiding citizens and legal immigration; infanticide over the sacredness of human life; the dismantling of Western civilization over its preservation. This is not simply wrong – this is evil.

Conservatives who believe that it is still possible to reason with the left and engage them in fair-and-square policy debates are clinging to a failed strategy, sadly. We must accept the reality that leftists have long since abandoned rational rules of engagement, if they ever had any; instead, they operate from a hate-filled mob mentality, a bloodlust for power, and a complete absence of moral boundaries. We cannot afford a lack of moral clarity about the undeclared civil war raging across the United States of America.

Mark Tapson is the David Horowitz Freedom Center's Media Director and Shillman Journalism Fellow on Popular Culture.

Political Cartoons

A WOMAN CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR STRESS LEVEL



Both men are 72 years of age!



Any Questions?

Texas Transgender Bills to 'Ban Christianity' in Texas?

Michael Haverluck, January 30, 2019, OneNewsNow.com

A showdown between religious freedom and transgender privileges is underway in Texas, where six pro-LGBTQ bills are targeting the constitutional rights of Christians.

The magnitude of the latest wave of pro-LGBTQ legislation is so severe that one conservative columnist argues that the left is attempting "to ban Christianity in Texas."

Bracing for the worst

While LGBTQ activists across the Lone Star State are confident that the upcoming state bills will enhance the so-called "gay rights" of Texans, many conservative pastors in the state are fearful that the proposed laws – that would add gender identity and sexual orientation to Texas discrimination laws – will diminish their right to express their faith.

Texas Pastors Council President Dave Welch believes that it is absurd that the ultra-left is now arguing that a person's decision to believe they are the opposite sex is given the same recognition and precedence as a person's natural-born ethnicity.

"The mad dash by some Democrat House and Senate members to push false narratives that sexual behavior is the same as skin color and that mental illness deserves the same honored status as religious belief is ominous evidence that the criminalization of religious faith and common sense are on the horizon," Welch warned, [according to CBN News](#).

This view is shared by one conservative critic, who is concerned that half a dozen bills set out to silence Christians will make living out one's faith much more difficult in one of America's most populous states – and its largest conservative state, for that matter.

"They want to ban Christianity in all but name," [The Resurgent's Erick Erickson asserted](#). "This continues a long line of thought first advocated by the Obama Administration, which sought to restrict the 'free exercise' clause of the First Amendment to a 'freedom of worship' standard. In other words, be a Christian in church on Sunday, but nowhere else."

Two-thirds of the bills would directly target the livelihoods of business-owning Christians throughout the state.

"Four of the Texas bills – numbered HB 224, HB 254, HB 850 and SB 151 – would force Christian business owners to affirm homosexuality and transgenderism with their business practices, Erickson says," as reported by CBN News.

Erickson elaborated on the extent to which the bills would basically force small businesses to support transgenderism and self-professed sexual orientation by making them provide their goods and services that could be used to bolster their pro-LGBTQ cause.

"All for-profit businesses would have to allow men to use women's bathrooms," Erickson alerted Texans in his column. "And contractors who take business from the state would have to give up their deeply held religious views if those views do not affirm transgenderism."

The remaining third of the proposed legislation takes aim at the medical profession, essentially forcing doctors statewide to accept LGBTQ dictates when it comes to human sexuality – instead of their biological sex, which would trample Christians' sincerely held biblical beliefs.

"Two other bills take the LGBTQ activism straight into the health care field," CBN News' Benjamin Gill informed. "HB 517 forces Christian counselors to affirm transgenderism, and SB 154 would force doctors to violate their conscience by creating retroactive birth certificates with new gender identities for patients."

Resurfacing decades-old ideas ...

LGBTQ activists have been trying for decades to bolster privileges for the LGBT community at the expense of Christians' religious freedom, and many have used the "hate crimes" card to push for more so-called LGBT rights in the name of civil rights.

"Since 2007, Houston Democratic state Rep. Garnet Coleman – and others – have tried in vain to get just five words into Texas' hate crimes law: 'or gender identity or expression,'" [a report from the pro-LGBT KUT.org explained](#). "Victims of crime motivated by race, gender, sexual orientation and religion have been protected by the state's law, which was spurred by the 1998 murder of James Byrd Jr. in Jasper. State lawmakers passed a bill in 2001, but protection based on gender identity has been absent in the law's nearly 20-year lifespan."

Coleman has blamed discrimination in the Texas capitol of Austin as the reason why more pro-LGBTQ laws are not currently enforced across the state.

"I think there's still a bias against people who are transgender," Coleman told KUT. "There's still a bias against people who are gay and lesbian. There's a bias."

Changing the law for all for a select few

It is conceded that only a minute fraction of so-called "hate crimes" are directed at people because of their unnatural sexual orientation(s), and the state of Texas started specifying in its records back in 2014 whether victims of violence were targeted because of their self-professed gender identity.

"From 2014 to 2017, an average of 2 percent of hate crimes in Texas were motivated by gender identity, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety's Universal Crime Reporting data," KUT's Andrew Weber noted. "While the U.S. Census Bureau doesn't officially measure population on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity, an estimate from the Williams Institute at UCLA suggests people who identify as transgender make up less than 1 percent of Texas' population."

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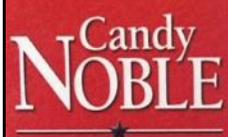
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I love hearing lectures about the #2ndAmendment from kids who can't name the 3 branches of government...

1998:
"Don't get in car with strangers"

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"Don't meet people from the internet alone."

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