

# The Kentucky CITIZEN

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES AND THE VALUES THAT MAKE FAMILIES STRONG

Vol. XIX No. 1

January/February 2010

## Concerns across America . . . and Kentucky

*Leaders continue to push agendas that are not wanted by the people . . . while they block the people's wishes.*

Many Americans (and Kentuckians) have awakened to the fact that many elected officials are no longer representing the people who sent them to Washington (or Frankfort). Rather than listen to their constituents, they are simply doing what *THEY* want. Given that atmosphere in both our state and federal capitals, it is without doubt time for everyday citizens to roll up their sleeves, get informed and get involved.

In Washington, some of the telltale issues include the healthcare overhaul, "Cap and Trade," and excessive government borrowing and spending. The fact that every American child born today is immediately saddled to the tune of \$184,000 with federal debt tells us that Washington insiders went over the deep end a long time ago.

Frankfort is not any different. Gov. Beshear has fanatically pushed expanded gambling even though citizens time and time again have pushed back against his manipulations. Like Washington, the legislature has borrowed heavily for projects and it has turned a deaf ear to an overwhelming majority of citizens who advocate for sanctity of life and public decency issues.

Case in point: Last year The Ultrasound Bill was sent to the House Health and Welfare Committee by House Leadership *after* the chairman had publicly proclaimed he would kill it. What kind of committee hearing is that?

In addition, it has been five years since *any* significant pro-life legislation has passed the House. Frankfort rumors suggest that House Leadership promised liberal members that they would not see any pro-life legislation if they voted for the current slate of Chamber leaders.

Along the same theme, The Public Decency Act has been attempted every year but one since 2000, and yet each year, it dies in the House. Whether started in the Senate or the House, it dies in the House. (It has passed the Senate all

four times it was introduced in that Chamber. *See page 3.*)

Just as bad, but on the economic front, the Governor has repeatedly acted on behalf of the gambling industry with his call for slot machines. He has been totally unprotective of Kentucky citizens who are to be what he calls his "new revenue stream." In essence, his plans require citizens to become losers so that the state and the state's favored groups can gain.

Examine the Governor's record on expanded gambling: Before he was elected, he promised the people that they'd

have a say. When his constitutional amendment failed, he dropped the constitutional amendment and by-passed the people by pushing a simple statute. When that statute failed in February 2009, he called a Special Session that summer. When his slots bill stalled there, he tried to bribe legislators with new school buildings. Once that failed and the Special Session ended, he offered good jobs to Republican Senators to remove them in order to take control of the

Senate with his special elections. And when that blew up in his face in December, he planned his most recent tactic – strong-arming the legislature by building the budget with gambling revenue as its foundation.

With all of this coming to impasse, it will be interesting to see whether the people or the elected leaders win the day in the 2010 Session.

### Restore America Rally



Join hundreds at the Capitol to stand for **Faith, Family, Freedom and Fiscal Responsibility** in government.

Legislators will see that you care . . . and fellow citizens will recognize that something new is happening across America and across Kentucky.

Come with your family – teach your children what it means to participate as an American citizen.

**Noon-1:00 pm • Capitol Steps  
Saturday, Feb. 20**

# The Ultrasound Bill lets women see the truth

*Ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation for states with the most fair and comprehensive pro-life laws, this moves the Commonwealth forward.*

After The Ultrasound Bill unanimously passed its Senate committee in 2008 and then passed the full Senate by a wide bipartisan margin of 32-4, there was significant disappointment when then-House Judiciary Chairperson Kathy Stein personally killed it by denying House members the opportunity to vote on it. She had even told other legislators and the media that she would hear the



**Ultrasound of a 9-week unborn child**

bill, prompting legislators who had traveled home for Good Friday to return to Frankfort, where she reneged on her promise.

Then in 2009, when The Ultrasound Bill had passed the Senate with a similar 33 to 4 majority, the chairman of the House Health and Welfare Committee, Rep. Tom Burch (D-Louisville), publicly promised to kill it if it was sent to his committee. Sure enough, House Leadership sent the bill to Burch's committee where a tie vote was arranged and the bill never advanced to the House Floor where proponents and opponents alike believe it would have passed with an overwhelming 80 to 90 votes.

This year The Ultrasound Bill, numbered Senate Bill 38, passed the Senate on Jan. 25 with another strong margin of 32 to 4 with only Senators Kathy Stein (D-Lexington), Tim Shaughnessy (D-Louisville), Joey Pendleton (D-Hopkinsville) and Denise Harper Angel (D-Louisville) voting against it.

SB 38, sponsored again like last year by Sen. Elizabeth Tori (R-Radcliff), requires abortionists to give women an opportunity to see an ultrasound of their baby prior to making the decision to have an abortion and

mandates face-to-face informed consent consultation, as opposed to the tape-recorded message to which they have resorted.

## Ultrasound Requirement

Advances in ultrasound technology, including 3D and 4D digital video and still images, have provided a clear window into the womb. At both abortion providers in Kentucky, abortionists are already giving mothers an ultrasound to determine the gestational age of the child. Abortion fees are determined based upon the gestational age because abortionists charge more to dismember a larger baby. The bill would require that the abortionist give a woman access to her own ultrasound so that she can make a fully informed decision.

Currently 18 other states include some kind of ultrasound requirements prior to performing an abortion. Women have a right to be fully informed, especially regarding the nature, appearance, and movement of the unborn baby that is the very target of the abortion procedure.

“What SB 38 says is that the abortionist has to turn the ultrasound screen around and give the woman a chance to see her own baby,” said Richard Nelson, policy analyst for The Family Foundation. “A large number of women who see an ultrasound will decide against abortion.”

Nelson maintains that because the country had been consistently lied to by pro-abortion activists in the 1970s that a pregnancy was nothing more than a blob of tissue, it is critical that clear, scientific truth be offered to women by all abortionists. “Given the statistical impact of seeing the actual ultrasound in the other states with the measure,” said Nelson, “this bill has the potential to save the lives of 1,000 babies each year, and save 1,000 women from making a decision they will regret the rest of their lives.”

## Face-to-Face Informed Consent

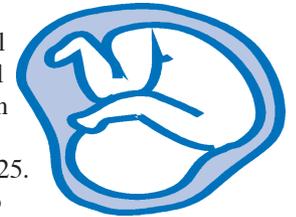
Another component of SB 38 is the requirement for face-to-face access to the physician, as with other medical procedures. In 1998 the General Assembly passed HB 85, known as the Informed Consent Law, which is codified in KRS 311.725.

The law required abortionists to first counsel women about their medical risks, fetal development, alternatives to abortion, and to offer them booklets published by the Cabinet for Families and Children. The law also required a 24-hour period of reflection prior to the performance of the abortion.

However, abortionists have deliberately taken their liberty and misinterpreted the law, employing a pre-recorded telephone message, instead of in-person counseling. Their approach clearly does not satisfy the medical standard for informed consent and leaves women in the dark about many things. SB 38 requires that before an abortion can be performed, a woman must be given the relevant information about the procedure in person – in a *face-to-face* setting.

“The importance of a face-to-face or in-person medical consultation prior to consenting to a surgical procedure is a widely accepted medical standard of care,” explained Mike Janocik of Kentucky Right to Life. “A pre-recorded telephone message does not allow a physician to accurately assess the health and risk factors of a patient.”

If SB 38 passes the House, Kentucky may move from its 12<sup>th</sup> ranking among states for strong pro-life legislation to one of the top five. “It's time for this pro-life state to pass more pro-life legislation,” said Janocik. “The last significant pro-life legislation – the Fetal Homicide Bill – passed in 2004 during the first year of the Fletcher Administration.”



## Since 2004, key pro-life bills have died in the House

*The last significant pro-life bill was passed under Gov. Fletcher – The Fetal Homicide Bill.*

**2009 Session:** SB 79-The Ultrasound Bill Passed Senate 33-4 (March 3, 2009). Died in House Health and Welfare Committee with 8-8 tie vote

**2008 Session:** SB 40-The Ultrasound Bill Passed Senate 32-4 (Feb. 7, 2008). Died in House Judiciary Committee

**2007 Session:** SB 179-Fully Informed Consent Passed Senate 34-3 (Feb. 20, 2007). Died in House Health and Welfare Committee

**2006 Session:** HB 489-Abortion Ban Died in House Health and Welfare Committee

SB 125-Fully Informed Consent Passed Senate 34-3 (Feb. 28, 2006). Died in House Health and Welfare Committee

**2005 Session:** HB 149-Prohibit Clone and Kill Died in House Judiciary Committee

HB 386-Prohibit Destructive Embryonic Research Died in House Judiciary Committee



# HR ??\* says an amendment AND the people

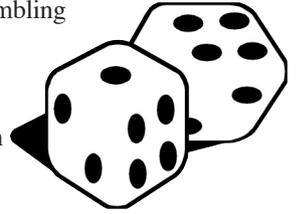
Powerful leaders have recently concluded that a simple statute (law) WITHOUT the people's opportunity to ratify or reject is s

**\*[EDITOR'S NOTE: At press time, this Resolution had not received its official number.]** Prior to 2005, ALL Kentucky Attorneys General who had ever written an opinion about gambling had always opined (since the re-writing of the Kentucky constitution in 1892) that a constitutional amendment would be required to expand gambling. Now the Governor, the Attorney General and the Speaker of the House all maintain they can simply pass a statute, bypass the people's involvement and introduce into the state a brand new gambling industry that will handle \$8 billion in its first year alone, and \$10 billion in its fifth year, outstripping even the General Assembly's annual budget. The passage of House Resolution ??\* would set the matter straight by having the General Assembly mandate that a constitutional amendment is needed and that the right to ratify or reject such a change would remain with the people.

"A matter of constitutional law has very quietly been

twisted over the last five years, and our deepest concern is that citizens of Kentucky may not have recognized the shift," said Kent Ostrander, executive director of The Family Foundation. "If it is not addressed cleanly and

Foundation would file suit if gambling was expanded through a simple statute and the people were bypassed.



**House Resolution ??\*: The General Assembly should, if it chooses to address the issue of expanding gambling, let the people of Kentucky decide the issue by following the Constitutional process for amending the Kentucky Constitution, in which lawmakers recommend to voters the policy they deem expedient and then having the issue placed on the ballot for voter ratification.**

clearly now, this subtle change in thinking may become 'law' even without a court ruling."

Ostrander had announced last year before the Governor's Special Session in June that The Family

The evolution of the "statute only" concept is interesting. In 1988, when the constitutional amendment was passed authorizing The Kentucky Lottery, then House Majority Leader Greg Stumbo (D-Prestonsburg) was its sponsor. But when a question was asked on the House floor about whether it allowed electronic slots machines, the representative handling the bill for Stumbo, Bill Donnermeyer (D-Bellevue), said it "does not provide for slot machines or anything like that." Stumbo did not correct Donnermeyer's statement, but 17 years later as Attorney General, he issued an opinion that the 1988 amendment did in fact authorize the General Assembly to decide all gambling matters.

**QUESTION**: If the 1988 Lottery Amendment authorized the Kentucky General Assembly *alone* to legislate about any/all expansion of gambling, why didn't the ballot question *say exactly that*?

A very good question!

The fact is the ballot question was *only* about authorizing a lottery. A cursory examination reveals there were three phrases in the 1988 ballot question. Each of the three phrases focused on the word "lottery" contained within it so that three aspects of a lottery were made legal by changing the Kentucky constitution.

The three foci include: 1) the lottery could be *established* as an entity within the Commonwealth; 2) the lottery could be done in *cooperation* (conjunction) with other states (Powerball); and 3) the lottery would be an *official lottery run by the state*, in contrast to a private or private company's lottery.

## GENERAL ELECTION NOV 8, 1988 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

#1: Shall Section 226 of the constitution be amended to provide that the General Assembly may establish a Kentucky State lottery; may establish a state lottery to be conducted in cooperation with other states; and that any lottery so established shall be operated by or on behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky?

*It easily could have read . . .*

**"Do you authorize the General Assembly to make all decisions about all gambling matters in the Commonwealth?" *But it didn't!***

# e's vote are needed for gambling expansion

ufficient. The state Constitution says otherwise and Resolution ??\* gives the General Assembly the words to say so.

That, in turn, led to the current Attorney General, Jack Conway, to issue an opinion, written and researched in just a matter of weeks, that concurred with Stumbo's 2005 opinion – just in time for the first day of the Governor's Special Session push for a slot machine bill last summer. Typically, an opinion by an Attorney General takes months to develop.

In addition, it is important to note that Stumbo was also the highest ranking member of the Democrat Party at that time to endorse Conway in his 2010 run for the U.S. Senate.

In the current 2010 Session of the General Assembly there is little will by the legislators to push gambling in an election year. However, it would not be a bad thing for

Republicans and Democrats alike – both those for and against gambling expansion – to lay out the ground rules as to how the debate will move forward. And with more than 80 percent of the population wanting to have their say in the matter, a constitutional amendment process would be wise.

And that is *exactly* what HR ??\* mandates.

## Citizens must secure their involvement through HR ??\* because of all the recent manipulations

HR ??\* has the legislators themselves pledging, “We must use a constitutional amendment so the people are involved.”

There has been a major attempt to manipulate the understanding of Kentucky citizens. The Governor and others have been twisting arms and facts to do the gambling industry's bidding, asking citizens to accept a simple statute and no role in any expanded gambling decision. But none of these things will be possible if House Resolution ??\* is passed. Below is a listing of some of the calculated (and misguided) strategies that have been attempted, each one illustrating the kind of manipulative control the gambling industry will have and will use to further shape the Commonwealth's government once the slots money starts to flow:

In 2007, Beshear campaigned on a platform of “Letting the people decide.” He even chided his opponent, Gov. Ernie Fletcher, during a debate, strongly challenging him with, “Don't you trust the people of Kentucky?”

But now he is pushing to bypass the people.

Why? He claims that there is “not time” to pass a constitutional amendment. But the real reason why he has dropped the promised constitutional amendment is because he could not get it through the legislature. An amendment requires a 3/5 majority in both Chambers, and Beshear did not have the votes in either of the 2008 or 2009 regular sessions. So, he has been trying to pass a simple slots bill without the people's involvement. A simple piece of legislation only needs 51 percent of the legislature and no ratification (or rejection) by the people.

A more disturbing fact has also become clear: He has allowed himself – *and the Office of Governor* – to be used by the gambling industry. To illustrate, how many times has he said “the horse industry provides 100,000 jobs” for Kentuckians?

In an article on June 14, a *Lexington Herald-Leader* writer reported that the origin of that figure was Deloitte Consulting. As it turns out, the horse industry employed Deloitte, and its research calculated 51,000 jobs in Kentucky. The horse industry felt that “100,000 jobs” sounded better and gave the Governor that number. Without doing any research himself, Beshear took it and began spreading misinformation for the gambling industry *as the Governor of the Commonwealth*. He even did so as recently as Nov. 16 at a speech in Bardstown.

Kentuckians did not elect Beshear to be the spokesman for the gambling industry . . . and certainly not its salesman. Kentuckians elected him to be their Governor – an advocate for and a protector of “the people.”

But things went from bad to worse. When he failed to get his statute passed during the 2009 regular Session in February and March, Beshear called a Special Session during the summer to consider his slots bill. There, again, his statute stumbled, getting only 52 votes in the House (one more than absolutely needed), and then it died in its Senate committee.

But even the victory through the House was questionable because legislators

came out of the private Democrat Caucus meeting stating that they had been told that they would not receive the school renovations and school construction in their district unless they had voted “yes” on the bill. In other words, the bill received its passage with the same kind of “vote buying” that was publicized with the Obama Health Care Plan in the U.S. Senate. This tactic is legal as long as it is done with public money – your tax dollars, but it is still very sleazy. If it had been private money securing the vote, both the legislator and the one who had set up the bribe would be headed for prison.

Then, after failing to pass the slots bill in the Special Session during the summer, Beshear began a new strategy – he decided to use the power of his office to offer great jobs to senators from the other Party (with whom he firmly disagreed), just so he could remove them and then attempt to elect a pro-gambling senator in their place through a Special Election that he would call. This is a brazen misuse of the power of the Governor's Office.

Since when does a Governor use all the power of his office *FOR* one industry?

Unfortunately for him, this new strategy would work out badly. His first election had veteran representative, Robin Webb, barely defeating a neophyte to politics, Dr. Jack Ditty in the 18th Senate District on August 25. But then on Dec. 8, after spending almost \$1.4 million, Jodie Haydon, the Governor's candidate, lost by a 56 to 44 percent margin to the Republican anti-gambling expansion candidate.

After that disaster, Beshear asserted himself afresh in 2010 and offered his 2010-2012 fiscal budget on Jan. 19 to the General Assembly *based on the revenue from gambling*, hoping to coerce the legislators for gambling.

All of this could have been avoided if Beshear had simply followed through on his campaign promise of following the constitutional amendment process where the people have the right to ratify or reject. Instead, Beshear is forcing a statute that expects Kentuckians to lose \$800 million every year to support his slots plan. And all of this without the people's consent.

Bringing the most addictive form of gambling – slot machines – into a state already beset with alcohol, drug, tobacco and food addictions is bad enough, but doing it by deliberately bypassing the people is fundamentally wrong. HR ??\* must pass!



“The Gambling Governor”

# House Bill ??\*: Religious Freedom Act is

*Most agree that the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution is pivotal, protecting the right of conscience with its freedom*

**\*[EDITOR'S NOTE: At press time, this House Bill had not received its official number.]** The free exercise of religion is, in a literal sense, our first and most basic freedom as Americans.



The right to worship in accordance with the dictates of our own conscience is a liberty given to us by our Creator. No man, and no government, should have the authority to take it away. For most of our country's history, our laws and our courts recognized and protected that right. This is the backdrop for HB ??\* – The Religious Freedom Act.

## Under Attack

Unfortunately, today this historical right to freely exercise religious faith is under increasing attack by government. Religious discrimination, even against mainstream faiths, is becoming more and more common. Nurses are being fired and demoted for expressing religious objections to participating in abortions; religiously-motivated home-schoolers are being harassed; the religious expression of college and university students is being silenced by draconian campus speech codes; landlords are being forced to violate their consciences and condone immoral behavior; and churches and private business owners are being penalized for simply opposing the increasingly radical demands of activists (such as the advocates of homosexual behavior). For most of our history, and until recently, the courts would never have tolerated such infringements of our religious freedoms.

Over the past two decades, however, the U.S. Supreme Court has significantly reduced the religious freedom guarantees of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Prior to 1990 it was well understood that neither the state nor federal government could impose a burden or limitation upon the fundamental right to freely exercise religion *unless the government could show it had a compelling interest in doing so, and no less restrictive means was available to accomplish that compelling interest.* This is known as the “compelling interest” test. Under this high standard of review, religious freedom usually prevailed over restrictive state regulations. Courts around the country had no problem applying that standard of review, yielding consistent and easily-understood results which provided a wide safety net for our religious liberties.

## Tragic Change in 1990

However, in 1990, the U.S. Supreme Court tragically reduced the level of protection historically afforded religious freedom. In *Employment Division v. Smith*, the Court held that the “compelling interest” test can only be applied if a state action or law *directly targets religion*, and not where an action or law is *generally applicable* with only an “incidental” adverse effect on the free exercise of religion. In the latter scenario, the state is

merely required to show a *rational basis* for its action, a much lower threshold of government interest. There is really no protection at all for religious liberty under that

then. The public, and Congress, were moved to action. **Religious Freedom Restoration Act**  
In response to *Smith*, Congress passed the 1993

## House Bill ??\*: Kentucky Religious Freedom Act

**“Government may not burden a person’s or religious organization’s Freedom of Religion. The right to act or refuse to act in a manner motivated by a sincerely held religious belief may not be burdened unless the government proves it has a compelling governmental interest in infringing the specific act or refusal to act and has used the least restrictive means to further that interest. A burden includes indirect burdens such as withholding benefits, assessing penalties, or an exclusion from programs or access to facilities.”**

minimal test, and the result has been the increasing frequency of religious freedom defeats such as those discussed above. The clear threat to our religious freedoms from the *Smith* decision was evident even back

Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), to restore the “compelling interest” test to restrictions placed on religious freedom. But the Supreme Court later held that the federal RFRA did not apply to the states. This left

## Typical examples of encroachment

*“State interest” seems to always override The First Amendment’s freedoms.*

**Wedding Facilities** - A Christian ministry in New Jersey chose not to rent its wedding facility to two lesbian women who wanted to have a civil union ceremony there. The ministry said the same-sex relationship violated their sincerely held religious beliefs. The two lesbian women accused the ministry of violation of civil rights. Legal action against the ministry is still ongoing.

**Abortion** - President Bush passed Health and Human Services regulations to protect religious hospitals from being forced by government to participate in abortions or other procedures that violate their religious beliefs and conscience. These protections are being repealed under the new administration.

**Freedom of Association** - A photographer in New Mexico declined to photograph a lesbian commitment ceremony because that would have violated the photographer’s sincerely held religious beliefs about marriage. After a complaint by the lesbian couple, the N.M. Human Rights Commission fined the photographer thousands of dollars. That was confirmed on appeal. The photographer is still currently defending herself in litigation.

**Boy Scouts and Belief in God** - Local governments often let the Boy Scouts hold troop meetings in public schools and other public buildings. Because of the Scouts’ beliefs on morality and belief in God, some cities across the country are denying the Scouts access to public buildings and other forms of public support.

**Adoption** - In Boston, Catholic Charities, an adoption agency, had a religious objection to placing adopted children in same-sex households. State officials ordered Catholic Charities to sign a statement dropping their religious beliefs on this or they would be excluded. As a result, Catholic Charities has had to stop handling adoptions to avoid violating its sincerely held beliefs.

# necessary as courts limit freedoms

of religion affirmation. But many judges are encroaching upon the free exercise with their social agenda rulings.

state citizens vulnerable to ill-conceived actions of their own state government that infringed upon religious liberty. However, the good news is that *states are free to enact their own legislation to strengthen religious liberty* and restore the “compelling interest” test that has served the country so well in the past. In fact, *some states have already done so* – 13 have enacted so-called “mini-RFRAs” and another 12 have favorable state court decisions which, until some future activist court reverses it or weakens it, require the “compelling interest” test that was discarded by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1990.

As demonstrated over the last several years by the aforementioned examples, states without “mini-RFRAs” or sufficiently broad state constitutional protections are at the complete mercy of activist courts when religious liberty comes into conflict with radical liberal social agendas. The typical “freedom of religion” constitutional language found in most state constitutions is not helpful in this battle because of the *Employment Division v. Smith* decision. Tragically, we have also learned from experience in the court battles over traditional marriage that mere state statutes are not enough

to protect our basic institutions of American life from activist judges. However, a well-drafted state religious freedom constitutional amendment provides the best

protected status that it once held in this country by restoring what has been lost through an unfortunate Supreme Court decision. The Religious Freedom Act is the result of the collective efforts of First Amendment experts from across the nation – constitutional law professors, trial practitioners and public policy professionals – using tested concepts and relevant language from U.S. Supreme Court decisions. It is designed to maximize our religious freedoms while giving activist judges very little wiggle room. HB ???\* – The Religious Freedom Act – will ensure that our religious freedom remains as our “first liberty.”

## The First Amendment

**“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”**

guarantee of lasting protection for citizens’ religious liberties from an overreaching legislature, government bureaucracy, or court system.

Given Kentucky’s political situation where House Leadership has concerns about the electoral impact of a constitutional amendment,<sup>1</sup> even a simple statute would at least be helpful.

Now is the time for religious freedom to regain the

*<sup>1</sup> Currently, House Leadership is made up of members of the majority party of the House – the Democrat Party. Many in the House fear that conservative citizens will show up in force on Election Day to help pass a traditional-values amendment, and while they are at the polls, will vote for a conservative or Republican challenger, thus reducing the control the Leadership has over the Chamber.*



## General information about the Kentucky General Assembly

The General Assembly has two Chambers: the House of Representatives and the Senate, made up of 100 and 38 members respectively.

The House currently is controlled by the Democrat Party with 65 of its members. The Senate is controlled by the Republican Party with 20 members and one Independent who caucuses with them.

The 2010 Session began on Jan. 5 and will conclude on April 13, with the last regular day for passing legislation designated for March 29.

Each House Bill or House Resolution (with an “HB” or “HR” notation) must pass a House Committee, the full House, a Senate Committee and the full Senate.

Similarly, each Senate Bill (with “SB” notation) must start in the Senate and finish a similar but reverse process, ending in the House.

**BOTH Chambers must pass a bill in order for it to become law!**

*To keep track of each bill visit this website or ask for our weekly email:*

[www.INSIDEFRANKFORT.COM](http://www.INSIDEFRANKFORT.COM)

[tffky@mis.net](mailto:tffky@mis.net)

# It is time to Rally in Frankfort



This is the best opportunity during the 2010 General Assembly to be heard. With all the concern we citizens have, it would be a shame to *NOT* take a stand.

One hour of Rally and some travel time will help your family . . . and change the direction of Kentucky.

Join hundreds at the Capitol to stand for Faith, Family, Freedom and Fiscal Responsibility in government.

**Noon-1:00 pm • Capitol steps  
Saturday, Feb. 20**

## The Kentucky CITIZEN

Executive Editor  
Kent Ostrander

Editor  
Sarah Roof

Contributing Editors  
Martin Cothran

Ivan Zabilka  
David Moreland

Don Pinson  
Richard Nelson

*The Kentucky Citizen* is published by The Family Foundation, a Kentucky nonprofit educational organization that works in the public policy arena on behalf of the family and the values that make families strong.

**The Family Foundation**  
P.O. Box 911111  
Lexington, KY 40591-1111  
859-255-5400  
e-mail: [tffky@mis.net](mailto:tffky@mis.net)  
Web site: [www.kentuckyfamily.org](http://www.kentuckyfamily.org)

The Family Foundation  
P. O. Box 911111  
Lexington, KY 40591-1111

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. Postage  
Paid  
Lexington, KY  
Permit No. 555

*OPINION: Sometimes it's good for a strong wind to blow.*

## The Perfect Storm

The Obama Administration and the majority caucuses in both the Senate and the House have frightened many traditional American citizens, both in their apparent unrestrained use of government power (the process) and in the actual policies they propose (the substance).

Similarly, the Beshear Administration has used all kinds of governmental manipulations to serve the gambling industry (they have corrupted the normal constitutional process) all for a worthless and harmful slots bill (simply a "bankrupt idea").

But the good news is that citizens are getting involved and speaking out and even offering themselves as candidates in a run for office.

Examine these facts: The Rally scheduled for noon on Saturday, Feb. 20



**Kent Ostrander is the executive director of The Family Foundation**

could quickly become the Session's largest gathering of citizens if the people of Kentucky desire to make it so. That in itself sends a strong message to everyone in Frankfort.

With a similar thrust of commitment, citizens have already made the 2010 election cycle the most contested in decades with the newly announced 49 State Senator candidates vying for 19 Senate seats and the 183 State Representative candidates vying for the 100 House seats.

**Let me encourage you.  
Do not be slack in these days.  
Turn your face into the wind  
and embrace what it offers.**

Even the single U.S. Senate race has 11 candidates filed, while the six Congressional seats have a total of 23 filed.

All of this is good news – citizens, candidates and Kentucky values all coming together for a change in the "political climate."

Yes, it's true storms *can* be destructive – but a storm doesn't *have* to be. Since the growing storm is in the hands of concerned citizens it can be directed in a healthy, nondestructive way that serves the purpose of Kentucky families and Kentucky government. In fact, given the needs of America and the Commonwealth, the only thing that would be unhealthy would be an

apathetic response to this potential force for good.

Let me encourage you. Do not be slack in these days. Turn your face into the wind and embrace what it offers. This type of "natural power" comes only so often. Even more, do not only face the wind, but do your part to contribute. If you do, you help make history, not just read about it. And that's what Americans have always been called to do.

*To keep track of key pro-family pieces of legislation,  
go to our new website designed expressly for that purpose:*

**[www.INSIDEFrankfort.com](http://www.INSIDEFrankfort.com)**

*For more information, call or email us at:*

**859-255-5400 [tffky@mis.net](mailto:tffky@mis.net)**