

**CHN Update on 2-5-09 Domestic Partnership Hearings
HB1727 & SB5688: Making Domestic Partnerships Equal to Marriage**

THANK YOU to all who came to Olympia on Thursday! "This is the greatest showing we have ever had on this issue!" We heard this from more than one Olympia insider. Of the approximately 250 hearing attendees, we (Christian Heritage and CHN) were shocked at how many attendees we knew or knew us--then we realized over half of the people there were homeschool families!!!!

One of the organizers working to oppose these bills said their website got over 700 hits in a day from the e-alert Christian Heritage Home Educators sent out!

We've also heard from some Olympia conservatives who had been concerned we would not be able to stop the bill in the House. With the overwhelming show of opposition at the hearings, these legislators now had new hope.

You have blessed us at CHN so many times with your support for homeschooling legislation. By attending the hearings on Thursday, you also truly helped to encourage and strengthen other organizations who serve us in Olympia by standing for the Word of God, protecting our Christian liberties, and working hard to protect traditional marriage. Thank you, again, to the many faithful Christian homeschool families that showed up for these hearings.

However, there is still much more work to be done at the grassroots to stop these bills from becoming law in Washington. We need to get the message out to others, write letters to our legislators, and make calls, too. These are all very important, also.

Christian Organizations Coordinating Opposition to these Bills:

Family Policy Institute:

["Domestic Partnerships Benefits" Legislative Hearing Information & Talking Points](#)

Washington Values Alliance:

["Domestic Partnerships Benefits Legislative Hearing Information" ~ Reasons to Oppose](#)

Things to Do:

1. Distribute this information to others who support traditional marriage.
2. Call your legislators and tell them to oppose HB1727& SB5688.

Call the Legislative hotline number 1-800-562-6000. You can leave a brief message stating your opposition to the two bills. They will also write down a brief statement, if you wish to leave one. This will be sent to your legislator whose staff will keep a tally of calls pro/con on the bill.

3. Write your legislators tell them to oppose HB1727& SB5688.

Letters are often the most effective way of communicating with lawmakers. Stick to the topic of the bill and briefly state your opposition to it.

In both of the above, identify yourself as a concerned citizen rather than as a homeschooler as this is

not a homeschooling issue. Mentioning homeschooling, in this context, would only muddy the waters.

While this is not directly a home education issue, we must be involved. Passage of these bills would have far-reaching effects on families in Washington by redefining marriage to include same-sex partners. If we will each do our part we may---by God's grace---be able to defeat this anti-family legislation.

Preserving homeschool freedoms for today and tomorrow!

Christian Homeschool Network

www.CHNow.org

CHN is legislative liaison to Christian Heritage Home Educators

www.christianheritageonline.org

© 2009 CHN all rights reserved

Permission to copy and distribute if copied in its entirety, or contact chnow@msn.com

If you support the work of the Christian Homeschool Network, please join us at <http://www.chnow.org/>