



FACT Focus

MONITOR A BILL

Every day our state legislators have a stream of politically savvy governmental relations experts calling on them to support legislation of interest to their clients. For example, even the adult entertainment industry has someone "on the Hill" to protect their interests.

But the Christian voice must be heard, too, which means we must know what issues our legislators will address. You can track family-related bills on our handy table at FACTn.org/legislation.htm.

Distributed by
The Family Action Council of Tennessee
a family policy council associated with
Focus on the Family.
Download this leaflet at:
www.FACTn.org



Speaking Up for the Defenseless



The Bible says, "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute" (Proverbs 31:8). There is, perhaps, no more destitute and defenseless class of people in Tennessee than the unborn.

In 2000, the Tennessee State Supreme Court "found" a fundamental right to abortion in the state Constitution. In addition, *the Court made Tennessee's Constitution the strongest in the nation in protecting abortion*. And Tennessee's court is the *only one to have struck down a legislatively enacted informed consent law!* Other commonsense laws like a 48-hour waiting period were also ruled unconstitutional.

The only way to rectify the Court's ruling is for the people to vote on a constitutional amendment that would once again make our Constitution neutral on the issue of abortion. Senate Joint Resolution 127, currently being considered by our state legislators, would once again allow abortion to be regulated by our *elected* legislators, who are accountable to us, instead of by five unelected justices.

SJR 127 passed the state Senate in March and is currently being debated in the House. To find out what you can do to help thousands of unborn children in our state, go to our Web site at www.FACTn.org.



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OUR MISSION is to promote and defend a culture that values the traditional family, for the sake of the common good. We seek to do so by:

- Encouraging public policies in Tennessee that support the institution of marriage, the sanctity of life, traditional family values, and religious liberty,
- Identifying, educating, and mobilizing like-minded people and churches through local Truth Project trainings, sponsorship of Ministers' Day on the Hill (state Capitol), establishment of church Salt and Light Committees and other initiatives.

WE BELIEVE that a strong, vibrant, and healthy future for our citizens is grounded in the strength, vitality, and health of today's families. Families are the cornerstone of any nation, state and community, and, as the family goes, so go those communities of people. Neglecting common-sense, biblical values contributes to many of our nation's current ills like crime, disease, divorce, unwanted pregnancies, teen suicide and academic failure.

OUR VALUES include Biblical worldview, healthy families, respect for life, sexuality within marriage, respect for parental authority, and religious liberty. When the state protects these time-tested values, they in turn protect the family. We believe churches, families and individuals are best equipped to foster these values, but we believe that government should not work against them. Our desire is to provide factual educational resources for each of these to function in their respective areas of responsibility.

FACT is led by David Fowler, formerly a practicing attorney and twelve year veteran of the Tennessee state Senate. Dr. David Shelley, who has pastored churches in Georgia and Tennessee for 20 years, is the Director of Church and Community Relations. Please visit our web site at:

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