

Uphold and Strengthen Marriage and Family

"Marriage" Removed from Statute

Original Bill: [HB2173](#) **Amended Bill:** HCS HB 2173

Sponsor: Rep. Adam Schnelti

Description: Changes the laws regarding marriage and replaces marriage licenses with contracts of domestic union.

Position Statement: Oppose: "Although the dignity of this institution [marriage] is not transparent everywhere with the same clarity, some sense of the greatness of the matrimonial union exists in all cultures. 'The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life.'" (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, par. 1603) This legislation represents a retreat from the effort to revitalize the institution of marriage, an institution essential to the preservation of society. 02/19/20

Last Action: 03/05/2020 H - Voted do not pass from committee

Adoption Protection

Original Bill: [HB2043](#)

Amended Bill:

Sponsor: Rep. Ben Baker (R)

Description: Establishes the Adoption Protection Act.

Position Statement: Support: Faith-based adoption and foster care agencies should not be penalized for their beliefs about the nature and purpose of marriage. This bill would protect the free exercise of religion. 02/19/20

Last Action: 01/09/2020 H - Read Second Time

Healthy Marriage/Fatherhood Initiative

Original Bill: [HB2011](#) **Amended Bill:** HCS HB 2011

Sponsor: Rep. Cody Smith (R)

Description: To appropriate money for the Department of Social Services and several divisions and programs. Section 11.155 provides \$2.5 million for the Healthy Marriage and Fatherhood Initiative program.

Position Statement: Support in part: Support Section 11.155 that provides funds for the Healthy Marriage and Fatherhood Initiative program, which encourages stronger marriages and assists absent fathers in reconnecting with their families and children. 03/26/20

Last Action: 03/16/2020 H - Reported Do Pass Committee as substituted - Six hours total debate on perfection

Pornography as a Public Health Issue

Original Bill: [HCR72](#)

Amended Bill:

Sponsor: Rep. Ken Wilson (R)

Description: Recognizes pornography as a public health hazard.

Position Statement: Support: Modern technology provides unprecedented access to adult content for both adults and minors. Recognizing pornography as a public health issue is the first step towards limiting access to it and managing the detrimental public health consequences of its increased availability. 02/19/20

Last Action: 03/16/2020 H - Reported Do Pass Committee

Original Bill: [SCR31](#)

Amended Bill:

Sponsor: Sen. Ed Emery (R)

Description: Recognizes the societal harms brought by pornography and the need for education, prevention, research, and policy change.

Position Statement: Support: Modern technology provides unprecedented access to adult content for both adults and minors. Recognizing pornography as a public health issue is the first step towards limiting access to it and managing the detrimental public health consequences of its increased availability. 02/19/20

Last Action: 03/26/2020 S - Resolutions Calendar - Reported from Committee
