



## WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 9, 2012**

### **GOVERNOR WALKER SIGNS WCC BACKED BILLS ON HEALTH EXCHANGES, “WEB CAM” ABORTIONS, SEX EDUCATION**

On Thursday, April 5, Governor Walker signed about 50 bills into law, including three measures supported by the Wisconsin Catholic Conference.

Among the bills approved by the Governor are:

- Senate Bill 237, which restores flexibility and local control to school districts in providing instruction in human growth and development. This new law is Act 216 of the 2011 Legislature.
- Senate Bill 306, which assures that a woman is not coerced into having an abortion and also prohibits “webcam” abortions. This bill is now Act 217.
- Senate Bill 92, which bars health insurance providers that participate in a future state exchange from including elective abortions in their coverage. The new law is now Act 218.

The three bills were among the dozens of bills the Legislature enacted in the final two weeks of the 2011-12 legislative session, which came to an end on March 15. The flurry of legislative activity at the end of a session creates a large backlog of legislation that the Governor must act on in a relatively short period of time by signing the bills or vetoing them.

“The Governor’s approval of these bills is the final step in the legislative process,” said Barbara Sella, WCC Associate Director for Respect Life and Social Concerns. “These laws support the importance of informed decision-making by families,” Sella continued. “The fact that they are now law is a tribute to the hard work of many people across the state.”

For more information, contact Barbara Sella or Kim Wadas at 608-257-0004.