

WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Capitol Update

January 27, 2012

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WCC Action Alert on Conscience Protection

In light of the recent U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) rule that virtually all private health care plans must cover sterilization, abortifacients, and contraception, the WCC yesterday issued an [Action Alert](#) in conjunction with the USCCB, urging Catholics to contact their federal lawmakers. The Alert asks citizens to urge co-sponsorship of the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act (H.R. 1179, S. 1467).

Governor Walker Issues Catholic Schools Week Proclamation

Governor Scott Walker has proclaimed January 29 through February 5, 2012, as Catholic Schools Week in Wisconsin. The proclamation coincides with the national observance of Catholic Schools Week by Catholic schools across the country. The theme for this year's observance is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service."

Upcoming Hearings of Interest

(N.B. Only bills of interest are flagged. In most cases, committees will be considering other bills as well.)

Joint Legislative Audit Committee

9am, Wed., Feb. 1, 411-S

Audit Report 11-15: Medical Assistance Program, Department of Health Services.

A live audio broadcast of the hearing can be accessed at

<http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lab/JCAHearing.htm>

Senate and Assembly Committees on Education

10am, Thu., Feb. 2, 412-E

Informational joint hearing on Wisconsin ESEA Waiver Proposal.

New Bills of Interest

[SB-377](#). **Disabilities** (Galloway) Changes terminology for those with an intellectual disability. *To Public Health, Human Services, and Revenue.*

[SB-380](#). **Family Care** (Moulton) Removes the cap on enrollment of Family Care and other long-term care programs. *To Public Health, Human Services, and Revenue.*

[SB-400](#). **Chapter 49** (Joint Legislative Council) Reorganization of chapter 40 of the statutes, changes affecting public assistance programs. *To Judiciary, Utilities, Commerce, and Government Operations.*

[AJR-94](#). **Human Trafficking** (Berceau) Proclaiming January 2012 as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month.

[AB-477](#). **Family Care** (Kaufert) Removes the cap on enrollment of Family Care and other long-term care programs. *To Aging and Long-Term Care.*

[AB-500](#). **School Zone** (Clark) Adding kindergarten to the definition of school for the purposes of the gun-free school zone law and prohibition against weapons on school premises. *To Criminal Justice and Corrections*

Web Sites of Interest

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/waml>

- Who are my legislators

[Directory of Senate Members](#)

[Directory of Assembly Members](#)

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/leginfo.html>

- 2011-12 Session Schedule
- Weekly Schedule of Committee Activities
- Senate and Assembly Daily Floor Calendar

Capitol Update is a periodic e-mail on legislative issues from the Wisconsin Catholic Conference.

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