

WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Capitol Update

February 24, 2012

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WCC Posts Resources on Religious Liberty

The Wisconsin Catholic Conference website now has a page of [links](#) relating to religious liberty and health care. Interested readers are encouraged to consult it for updates from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on the issue of the contraception/sterilization mandate issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The United States Senate could soon take action on legislation designed to better protect those who object to this mandate as a matter of conscience and religious liberty.

Senate Passes Bill to Ban Coercive and Webcam Abortions

On a party-line vote of 17-15, the State Senate on Wednesday passed [Senate Bill 306](#) (Sen. Mary Lazich, R-New Berlin), which would prohibit webcam and coercive abortions, as well as prosecution of women who obtain abortions. The WCC supports the bill ([testimony](#)), which now awaits action in the Assembly.

Upcoming Hearings of Interest

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

Senate Committee on Education

10:35am, Tue., Feb. 28, 201-SE

[SB-486. Special Needs Scholarship Program](#) (Vukmir) Creating the Special Needs Scholarship Program for disabled pupils, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation. *To Education.*

[SB-427. Bullying](#) (T. Cullen) School bullying, unlawful use of computer systems. *To Education.*

Assembly Committee on Financial Institutions

12:30pm, Tue., Feb. 28, 300-NE

[AB-582](#). **Rental-Purchase** (Petryk) Regulation of rental-purchase agreements. *To Financial Institutions.*

New Bills of Interest

[SB-461](#). **Read to Lead** (Olsen) The Governor's Read to Lead development fund, the Read to Lead Development Council, grants in support of literacy and early childhood development programs, teacher licensure, screening kindergarten pupils for reading readiness, remedial reading services for certain pupils, evaluating teacher preparatory programs and educator effectiveness. *To Education.*

[SB-486](#). **Special Needs Scholarship Program** (Vukmir) Creating the Special Needs Scholarship Program for disabled pupils, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation. *To Education.*

[SB-502](#). **Child Placement** (Lazich) Case planning for a child placed in out-of-home care, including concurrent permanency goals, trial reunifications, and planned permanent living arrangements for such a child. *To Transportation and Elections.*

[AB-556](#). **Food Stamps** (Knudson) Requires participation in the food stamp employment and training program. *To Homeland Security and State Affairs.*

[AB-558](#). **Read to Lead** (Kestell) The Governor's Read to Lead development fund, the Read to Lead Development Council, grants in support of literacy and early childhood development programs, teacher licensure, screening kindergarten pupils for reading readiness, remedial reading services for certain pupils, evaluating teacher preparatory programs and educator effectiveness. *To Education.*

[AB-564](#). **Epi Pens** (Pasch) A pupil's possession and use of an epinephrine auto-injector. *To Education.*

[AB-566](#). **School Milk** (C. Taylor) Adds funding to the school day milk program. *To Education.*

[AB-568](#). **Alzheimer's Patients** (Krusick) Requirements for residential facilities that provide or promote themselves as providing specialized care for persons who have Alzheimer's disease or related dementia. *To Aging and Long-Term Care.*

[AB-576](#). **DPI** (Molepske) Selection of student information system vendors by the Dept. of Public Instruction. *To Education.*

[AB-578](#). **Credit History** (Wynn) Bars employment discrimination based on credit history with some exceptions. *Labor and Workforce Development*.

[AB-582](#). **Rental-Purchase** (Petryk) Regulation of rental-purchase agreements. *To Financial Institutions*.

[AB-598](#). **Wisconsin Shares** (Kerkman) Eligibility under Wisconsin Shares for a child care subsidy, for payment for child care services, and for certification as a family child care provider. *To Children and Families*.

[AB-599](#). **Child Placement** (Kerkman) Case planning for a child placed in out-of-home care, including concurrent permanency goals, trial reunification, and planned permanent living arrangements for such a child. *To Children and Families*.

[AB-603](#). **Child Support** (Krug) The collection of delinquent child support. *To Children and Families*.

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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