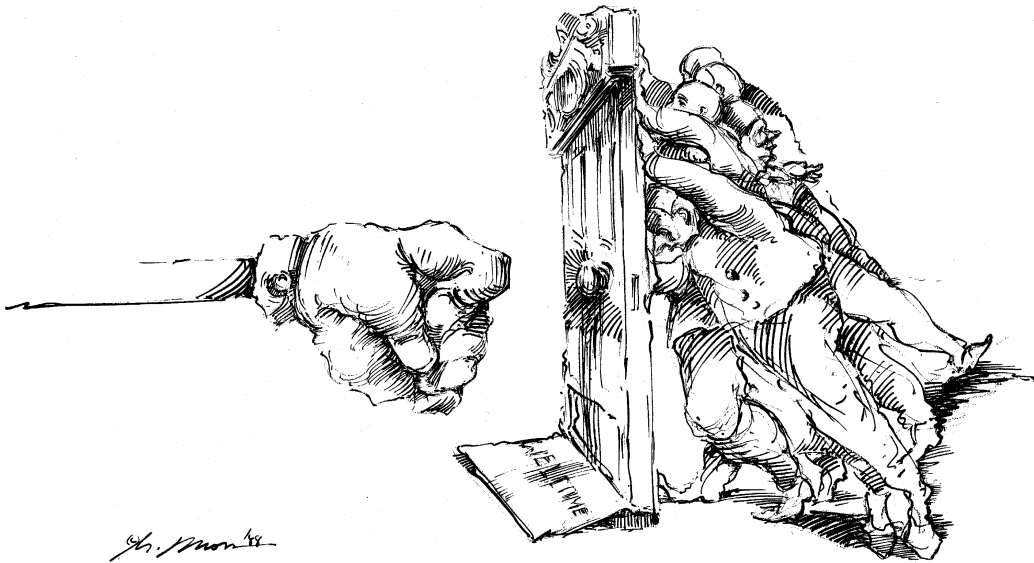


March 6, 2006

## Slamming the Door



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### Top Story

*States in recent years have tried a number of ways to slow illegal immigration. Now, almost a dozen are considering economic penalties against employers who hire undocumented workers, while others want to limit their education opportunities.*

## SNCJ Spotlight

### *Frustration spurs tougher state stance on immigration*

**T**he media attention garnered by the rise of the “Minuteman Project” citizen militias and last summer’s declarations of states of emergency in ARIZONA and NEW MEXICO helped generate a wave of new state laws targeting illegal immigration last year. Congress’ failure to adequately address the issue thus far in its current session — or in the two decades since the last overhaul of U.S. immigration policy, for that matter — has only spurred state lawmakers to step up their efforts this year.

The immigration-related themes featured in 2005 appear to be getting plenty of play in statehouses again this year. INDIANA, for instance, is seeking to prohibit illegal immigrants from accessing state social programs. COLORADO may grant local law enforcement the power to arrest undocumented residents. And a VIRGINIA lawmaker wants to make his state the third in the nation to create a special driver's license for non-citizens.

But state lawmakers are also trying some new approaches. In Arizona, which has been at the forefront of the immigration issue since voters there barred undocumented immigrants from voting and receiving state social services in 2004 (with Proposition 200), Gov. Janet Napolitano (D) is backing legislation that would fine businesses that employ illegal immigrants. And the Grand Canyon State is not the only one targeting employers of undocumented workers; according to State Net's database, 10 other states (See *Bird's eye view* for listing) have taken up similar proposals this session.

Immigration policy experts say that in the past, efforts to impose employer sanctions have been opposed by both pro-business Republicans and minority-friendly Democrats. The fact that such measures are now finding favor among more mainstream politicians like Napolitano, they say, marks a significant shift in how states are dealing with the issue (although others have claimed the Arizona governor's tougher stance on illegal immigration is an election-year gambit).

Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Immigration Studies, a think tank that supports tighter immigration controls, likes the idea of employer sanctions. "This should have been the point the whole time. Illegal immigrants aren't coming for food stamps. They're coming for low wages," he said.

States, however, actually have little leeway when it comes to punishing employers of illegal immigrants, since federal law already explicitly prohibits the hiring of undocumented workers. In fact, no state has passed an employer-sanction law since federal immigration rules were changed in 1986, according to Marielena Hincapie of the National Immigration Law Center, a nonprofit organization that advocates for low-income immigrants. But Hincapie says, "The push for employer sanctions is part of a larger frustration at the local

## *The Week in Session*

States in Regular Session: AK, AL, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, US, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV

States in Special Session:  
AZ "a", CA "a"

States in Budget Hearing Recess:  
DE, PA

Special Sessions in Recess:  
OK "a", PA "a"

Letters indicate special/extraordinary sessions  
Source: State Net, 03/03/06

level” over the federal government’s continued inaction on illegal immigration. She says that what states do have the authority to do is increase the penalties for violating labor laws.

The same frustration that is leading many states to exercise that power is also impelling several to reconsider their position on another controversial immigration issue: college tuition assistance. CALIFORNIA passed a law in 2004 allowing the children of illegal immigrants to attend public colleges at in-state tuition rates as long as those children graduated from a California high school. Eight other states — ILLINOIS, KANSAS, New Mexico, NEW YORK, OKLAHOMA, TEXAS, UTAH and WASHINGTON — followed suit.

DiAnna Schimek (D), who chairs the Senate education committee in NEBRASKA, another state that has considered in-state tuition for illegal immigrants, recently expressed the sort of thinking that led to those mea-

asures. “These children didn’t bring themselves” to this country, she says. “It’s only a good investment on our part to make certain they are productive citizens.”

But lawmakers in Kansas, New Mexico and Utah are now trying to repeal their tuition-benefit laws. And legal challenges to tuition assistance for illegal immigrants have been initiated in California and Kansas.

University of Missouri law professor Kris Kobach, who brought the Kansas suit, contends that the Sunflower State’s tuition-assistance program violates a federal law prohibiting states from providing benefits to illegal aliens that aren’t avail-

## Bird’s eye view



### States target employers in battle over illegals

States have in recent years become the national battleground over illegal immigration (See *SNCJ Spotlight* in this issue). State lawmakers across the country are considering a number of approaches to this controversial issue, including ARIZONA’s 2004 voter-approved measure barring undocumented immigrants from voting or receiving government services. And although federal law already bars hiring undocumented workers, 11 states are now considering their own sanctions against employers that violate the law, including stiff fines for those companies that knowingly hiring illegals. The accompanying map shows the states that are currently mulling those sanctions.



able to U.S. citizens as well. Kansas Rep. Becky Hutchins (R), one of the leaders of the state’s legislative repeal effort, shares that view. “There’s something wrong with giving a benefit to an illegal that we don’t give to citizens of other states,” she said.

There are other reasons for the changing fortune of immigrant tuition assistance. One is that even if illegal immigrants receive the benefit and manage to defy the odds stacked against graduating, there is almost no way for them to legally get a job or become a legalized citizen under current law. Federal legislation to remedy that situation — a measure called the Dream Act — was cosponsored by nearly half of the U.S. Senate in 2003, but its prospects have since faded.

The main cause for the shift, however, may just be voter backlash against illegal immigration in general. That notion certainly appears to be on the mind of Utah Rep. Glenn Donnelson (R), who said that the 400,000 illegal immigrants now flooding into his state every year is “an alarm to the people here...it’s a drain on the economy.” Likewise, New Mexico Sen. Rod Adair (R), who initiated an unsuccessful effort to repeal his state’s tuition benefit, said he’d merely acted “in response to my constituents. They’re frustrated.”

And protesting tuition-assistance programs is one of the only outlets voters have to vent their frustration. Federal law guarantees illegal immigrants access to emergency medical services and a 1982 Supreme Court ruling assures them access to public education through high school.

Congressional lawmakers are working on an overhaul of federal immigration policy, but pro-business Republicans and Democrats who want new laws that will allow illegal immigrants to eventually become citizens are at odds with social conservatives and national-security hawks who prefer changes that will discourage illegal immigration. That rift stymied efforts to overhaul immigration policy in the U.S. House last year, and is doing the same thing in the Senate this year. Which means state lawmakers may continue to be frustrated about federal inaction on the issue for a while to come. (STATELINE.ORG, WALL STREET JOURNAL, STATENET.COM)

— *Compiled by KOREY CLARK*

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# Budget & taxes

**T**ABOR DEAD IN KANSAS? House Speaker Doug Mays (R) said last week that the state's Taxpayer's Bill of Rights amendment, which he co-sponsored, is basically dead for the 2006 session. Mays said that he isn't "picking up much appetite among House members, Republican or Democrat" for the measure. Observers say advocates for higher education, social services and the business community have been working against the proposal, possibly as a result of **COLORADO** voters' decision to suspend their TABOR amendment last November. (LAWRENCE JOURNAL-WORLD)

**BUDGETS IN BRIEF:** The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments last week in a case concerning the constitutionality of tax breaks that **OHIO** used in 1998 to convince DaimlerChrysler to expand an assembly plant in the Buckeye State. If the justices choose to uphold a lower court ruling, states across the country could face similar challenges (STATE [COLUMBIA]). • The nonprofit, nonpartisan Tax Foundation released its third edition of the State Business Tax Climate Index, which ranks the 50 states on the basis of how "business friendly" their tax codes are. **WYOMING, SOUTH DAKOTA, ALASKA, FLORIDA** and **NEVADA** top the rankings, while **VERMONT, OHIO, RHODE ISLAND, NEW JERSEY** and **NEW YORK** sit at the bottom of the list (TAXFOUNDATION.ORG). • The **ILLINOIS** Department of Transportation said last week that it wants to spend \$10.4 billion over five years to repair and expand the state's highway system. That plan is separate from the \$2.3 billion Gov. Rod Blagojevich (D) has already proposed for highway construction projects (CHICAGO BUSINESS). • **MICHIGAN** has caught nearly 9,000 people in its crackdown on smokers who buy their cigarettes on the Internet to get around the state's \$2-per-pack tax. Collectively, the state has billed the tax dodgers \$5.9 million. And with only four of the 13 Internet sellers the state subpoenaed last year having turned over their customer lists so far, the number of dodgers — and dollars — is likely to rise considerably (DETROIT FREE PRESS). • **SOUTH DAKOTA's** ethanol industry pumped more than \$1 billion into the state's economy in 2004, according to a study conducted by Stuefen Research of Vermillion. In addition to generating \$675.5 million in sales, the industry also provided close to 4,000 jobs (RAPID CITY JOURNAL).

— Compiled by *KOREY CLARK*



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# Politics & Leadership

**H**IGH COURT HEARS HEFTY CASES: Last week was a big one for the U.S. Supreme Court, which took up a pair of cases that could significantly alter the way politics is conducted in America.

On Tuesday, the court heard arguments in the case of *Randall v. Sorrell*, concerning the constitutionality of a 1997 VERMONT law (Act 64) that imposed strict limits on campaign spending. The high court struck down such limits as a violation of free speech 30 years ago in the landmark case of *Buckley v. Valero*, but evidently the justices feel it's time for another look.

And they're not alone. "The time has come for the court to take a second look," says Brenda Right of the National Voting Rights Institute. "What we had in Vermont that prompted this law was that there was a moment when the legislature and the citizenry felt that they were on the brink of slipping into the kind of special interest money-dominated politics that they saw at the national level and they did not want to see this happening to their state."

Ironically, the same case that has been cited as precedent in lower court rulings rejecting the Vermont law offers some hope for that law's supporters. While the justices in *Buckley v. Valero* ruled that the government could not restrict how much political candidates can spend, they decreed that it could impose reasonable limits on how much money can be contributed to political candidates as a means of deterring corruption.

Consequently, Vermont Attorney General William Sorrell planned to argue that although special-interest influence might not be as much of a problem in his state as it is in some others or Congress, the First Amendment shouldn't prevent the state from trying to do something about it. "We've got perhaps a Vermont-scale problem," he said prior to making his appearance before the high court, "but we contend we have the right and need to address it."

However, Jim Bopp Jr., an INDIANA attorney who is representing the Vermont State Republican Committee in opposing the campaign spending law, dismisses the notion that corruption is a significant problem in the Green Mountain State. "They're attempting to demonstrate Vermont has the most corrupt system. This is an absurd proposition," he said, following up with a swipe at the Garden State: "This sounds more like New Jersey."

Cheryl Hanna, a professor of constitutional law at Vermont Law School, thinks Bopp's side is more likely to prevail. "If the Supreme Court upholds Vermont's expenditure provisions, it will indeed be a landmark case," she said. But she added, "I have a hard time seeing the court move in that direction."





**CORRECTION:** In the Feb 20 issue of the *State Net Capitol Journal*, we mistakenly identified Rep. Perry Clark (D) as the winner of a special election for the 37th District Senate seat in Jefferson County, VIRGINIA. The Mr. Clark and Jefferson County we were referencing actually both reside in KENTUCKY, not Virginia. We regret the error.

**POLITICS IN BRIEF:** Early voting came to **ILLINOIS** last Monday, with numerous polling places opening for the Prairie State’s March 21 primary. Illinois joins more than 30 states that already offer early voting in the hope of increasing voter turnout (CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, CHICAGO TRIBUNE). • More than 100 churches in **MARYLAND** have donated money to political candidates since 2000 in violation of federal tax law, according to a review of candidate finance reports by the *Baltimore Sun*. Churches that the IRS determines have made political contributions could face a 10 percent excise tax on the donations or revocation of their tax-exempt status (BALTIMORE SUN). • The state of **NEW YORK** has entered into negotiations with the federal government in an effort to avoid a lawsuit for failing to modernize its voting system in compliance with the Help America Vote Act. The approach currently being discussed would leave the current system in place for the election this fall — when Empire State voters will, among other things, choose a U.S. senator, a governor and all 212 members of the state legislature — but improve access to the polls for disabled voters (NEW YORK TIMES).

— *Compiled by KOREY CLARK*

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# Governors

**G**OVNS SOUND OFF AT BUSH: Governors from across the nation got a chance to voice their concerns directly to President George W. Bush during the annual National Governors Association (NGA) meeting in Washington D.C. last week. Although ongoing immigration concerns and rising health care and prescription medication costs were, as always, focal points in that discussion, the dominant issue for many governors was an impending Pentagon-led reconfiguration of the National Guard.

The Guard has a dual federal-state role, with governors normally commanding its usage in their states, while members deployed overseas on a federal mission are under the control of the president. Military officials generally revamp the Guard every four years, with the latest proposal recommending a reduction in the number of National Guard combat-trained brigades from 34 to 28, with the balance being reassigned to support duties.



workers, so you have supply and demand, but how do you make that work is really the big challenge,” Schwarzenegger said.

“When you think about issues that impact the West, this immigration issue is really the top issue right now,” said ARIZONA Gov. Janet Napolitano, (D), who chairs the WGA. “We believe that some of the rhetoric coming out of our nation’s capitol vis a vis illegal immigration is unfounded and unwise, and what we really need is a very comprehensive approach to this issue,” she said. (NEW YORK TIMES, SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE, WASHINGTON POST, STATE-LINE.ORG)

**MANCHIN SLOWS MINE RESCUE GEAR TIMETABLE: WEST VIRGINIA** Gov. Joe Manchin (D) said last week he will give coal operators more time to install new mine rescue gear, instead appointing a six-person task force to review the “commercial availability and functional and operational capability” of the equipment. The governor originally ordered coal operators to have the equipment in place by this week.

A Manchin spokesperson said that the new task force was aimed at addressing coal industry concerns that the necessary communications and tracking devices may not work at all locations in all underground mines. Some coal operators had complained that Manchin’s original timetable was too aggressive and did not allow them enough time to adequately evaluate the available technology.

In addition to delaying the deadline and creating the task force, Manchin also ordered that state mines be equipped with rescue chambers to provide miners with more emergency oxygen, with each rescue chamber to include a 24-hour air supply, compared to the 16 hours of breathing devices Manchin had earlier required in a cache at the working face of each state mine. The new rules are a direct response to the deaths of 16 Mountain State miners in multiple accidents over a three-week period in January and February. (CHARLESTON GAZETTE)

**FLETCHER GOES HOME, PATAKI STAYS PUT: KENTUCKY** Gov. Ernie Fletcher (R) was released from the hospital last week after undergoing surgery to remove his badly-diseased gall bladder. Fletcher was initially admitted on Feb. 12 after suffering from severe abdominal pain. He was diagnosed with a gallstone in his bile duct, but during the treatment was found to also have gall bladder disease. It only got worse from there, as he also contracted pancreatitis and a potentially life-threatening bloodstream infection during his two-week stay. Fletcher’s condition improved enough last week to allow him to go home, although he is still weak and is required to take intravenous antibiotics. First Lady Glenna Fletcher, a registered nurse, will administer the IVs.



NEW YORK Gov. George Pataki (R), however, had to stay hospitalized after also contracting an infection during his surgery for a ruptured appendix on Feb. 16. Pataki also underwent another surgery for an intestinal blockage. The governor's doctors said normal recovery time for a burst appendix is from one to three weeks, but refused to speculate as to when he will actually be able to leave the hospital. Both Fletcher and Pataki have spent their down time conducting state business from their hospital rooms, with Pataki Chief of Staff John Cahill saying he was forced to take the governor's Blackberry away from him so he would rest. (TIMES-UNION [ALBANY], LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER)

## Upcoming Elections

(03/02/06 - 03/23/06)

03/07/2006 Texas Primary Election  
House (All)  
Senate (All)

03/14/2006 Michigan Special Election  
Senate 023

03/14/2006  
Pennsylvania Special Election  
House 174

03/21/2006 Alabama Special Election  
House 001

03/21/2006 Illinois Primary Election  
Senate 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30,  
33, 36, 39, 42, 45, 48, 51, 54, 57  
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant  
Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer,  
Attorney General, Comptroller  
US House (All)

**GOVERNORS IN BRIEF:** Delegates at the CALIFORNIA Republican Party convention in San Jose last week rejected a proposed resolution to pull the state GOP's endorsement of Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) in the upcoming gubernatorial election. Some conservative activists are unhappy that Schwarzenegger hired a Democrat as his chief of staff, supports Democrat-led efforts to raise the minimum wage, and wants the state to borrow \$68 billion as part of a \$222 billion plan to improve the state's levees, schools and roads (SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS). • Citing the need to help police along the Mexican-American border battle smuggling, drug cartels and kidnapping plots, TEXAS Gov. Rick Perry (R) called for law enforcement to have greater wiretapping authority within the state. Perry said he wants to expand that authority, which is currently limited to murder and drug trafficking investigations, to also include kidnapping, aggravated assault and extortion (DALLAS MORNING NEWS). • A MAINE lawmaker has scaled back his efforts to increase the governor's salary. State Sen. Gary Moore (R) originally proposed hiking the pay scale from its current \$70,000 — the lowest in the nation — to \$220,000 annually. That eventually was trimmed to \$150,000, then to its current proposed \$102,000. If passed, it would not take effect until 2011. Current Gov. John Baldacci (D) has promised to veto the measure if it makes it to his desk. At least 300 people in Pine Tree State government earn more than Baldacci, who brings in about \$27,000 less than the typical city or town manager of a community with more than 20,000 residents (PORTLAND PRESS-HERALD).

— Compiled by RICH EHISEN



# Hot issues

**B** **USINESS:** A **NEW YORK** appeals court rules that illegal immigrants can sue for lost wages if they are injured on the job. The decision upholds a state Supreme Court ruling that said federal immigration laws do not bar such lawsuits (POST-STANDARD [ALBANY]). • The **FLORIDA** House shoots down legislation that would have forced Sunshine State employers to allow workers to keep firearms in their vehicle while at work (ST. PETERSBURG TIMES). • The Hoosier State House rejects a measure that would have made **INDIANA** a right-to-work state. Right-to-work laws prohibit employees from being required to join a union (FORT WAYNE JOURNAL GAZETTE). • Still in **INDIANA**, the Senate approves HB 1010, which would bar local governments from taking private property under eminent domain if the seizure is solely for the purpose of increasing that tax base through economic development. The measure moves to Gov. Mitch Daniels (R), who is expected to sign it (FORT WAYNE JOURNAL GAZETTE).

**CRIME & PUNISHMENT:** The **KENTUCKY** House endorses HB 236, which would allow Bluegrass State residents to use deadly force against someone breaking into their home or vehicle. The measure would also protect homeowners from prosecution and lawsuits related to shooting. It fires off to the Senate (LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER). • **WISCONSIN** Gov. Jim Doyle (D) signs SB 525, which requires protesters at funerals to stay at least 500 feet away from a funeral one hour before or after the service. First-time violators face up to \$10,000 in fines and nine months in jail. A second offense could bring up to a 3-year jail term (JANESVILLE GAZETTE). • Funeral protests are also on the agenda in **INDIANA**, where Gov. Mitch Daniels (R) says he will sign SB 5, legislation that would make it a felony to commit disorderly conduct within 500 feet of a funeral (FORT WAYNE JOURNAL GAZETTE). • The **GEORGIA** Senate unanimously approves SB 522, which would mandate that children under the age of 13 who commit murder stay incarcerated until they turn 21. The bill moves to the House (ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION).

**EDUCATION:** The **KANSAS** Senate approves legislation that requires Sunflower State school districts to provide sex education classes emphasizing abstinence and teaching about sexually-transmitted diseases. The measure moves to the House (LAWRENCE JOURNAL-WORLD). • The **UTAH** House rejects a measure that would have required teachers to issue a disclaimer to their students say-

ing that not all scientists agree about evolution and the origin of species (NEW YORK TIMES). • The **VIRGINIA** House okay’s HB 1308, which would allow Old Dominion State school boards to ban any school club “that encourages or promotes sexual activity by unmarried minor students.” It now meets up in the Senate (VIRGINIAN-PILOT [NORFOLK]). • **GEORGIA** also addresses high school clubs as the Senate passes SB 413, which mandates that parents give their approval before their children are allowed to join an extra curricular club. It moves to the House (ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION). • A **MICHIGAN** House committee endorses legislation that would require Wolverine State students to take an online course to graduate. It moves to the full House (DETROIT NEWS).

**ENVIRONMENT:** The **OREGON** Supreme Court upholds a Beaver State law that says local governments must allow land owners to exercise development rights that existed before the state’s land-use restrictions were implemented or compensate the owners for the lost value caused by those limits. Environmental groups have vowed to pursue a ballot measure seeking to overturn the law. At least three other states — **WASHINGTON, OREGON** and **OKLAHOMA** — are considering similar statutes (LOS ANGELES TIMES). • The **MICHIGAN** Senate and House each approve a measure that would ban the importation of foreign trash. The bill moves to Gov. Jennifer Granholm (D), who is expected to sign it. The federal government must also approve it because of a 1992 U.S. Supreme Court decision that says states cannot prohibit trash from crossing their borders without approval from Congress (DETROIT NEWS).

**HEALTH & SCIENCE:** A **MARYLAND** House committee snuffs out a measure that would have banned smoking in Old Line State bars and restaurants. Opponents said such a ban would harm those businesses (GAZETTE [GAITHERSBURG]). • The **VIRGINIA** House follows suit, unanimously rejecting a similar ban on smoking in public places. The Senate had recently approved the bill (WASHINGTON POST). • The **UTAH** House endorses SB 319, which would ban smoking in bars and private clubs. It returns to the Senate (SALT LAKE TRIBUNE). • The **COLORADO** Senate endorses legislation

# Quoteable

“God, guns, abortion, gays, illegal immigration — here we go again.”

— **VIRGINIA Sen. Russ Potts (R)** expressing his displeasure at a new bill that bars high school clubs that “promote sexual activity.” A similar measure was rejected in the Old Dominion Senate last year. (VIRGINIAN-PILOT [NORFOLK])

that bars smoking in most public buildings. The measure would exempt bars that get less than 25 percent of their profits from food. It wafts over to the House (DENVER POST). • Still in **COLORADO**, the House okay's HB 1212, which would allow — but not require — Centennial State pharmacists to dispense the “morning after pill.” The measure moves to the Senate (DENVER POST). • The **WASHINGTON** House endorses HB 2292, which, among other things, allows Evergreen State doctors to apologize to malpractice victims without fear the apology would be used in litigation against them. It moves to Gov. Christine Gregoire (D) (OLYMPIAN).

### In case you missed it:

A series of caustic anti-gay protests by a KANSAS church congregation at the funerals for U.S. war casualties has spurred more than a dozen states to introduce legislation this year seeking to greatly limit such demonstrations. But while most observers are appalled at the vitriolic nature of the protests, others worry that in the zeal to stop them, lawmakers may be trampling everyone's First Amendment rights.

In case you missed it, the article can be found in the archives section of our Web site at [http://statenet.com/capitol\\_journal/02-13-2006](http://statenet.com/capitol_journal/02-13-2006).

**HOMELAND SECURITY:** **TENNESSE** officials temporarily suspend the state “driving certificate” program, which allows undocumented immigrants to legally drive in the Volunteer State. The suspension came after an FBI investigation revealed a bribery and fraud ring that resulted in hundreds of people receiving fraudulent cards (TENNESSEAN [NASHVILLE]). • A **COLORADO** Senate committee endorses SB 90, which requires local police to report suspected illegal immigrants to federal authorities. The committee rejected seven other measure aimed at addressing illegal immigration (DENVER POST).

**SOCIAL POLICY:** The **SOUTH DAKOTA** House approves legislation that would ban all abortions except those necessary to save the mother's life. The measure would not exempt cases of rape or incest. It moves to Gov. Mike Rounds (R), who is expected to sign it into law (BELLEVILLE NEWS-DEMOCRAT). • A **MISSISSIPPI** House committee also endorses legislation that would allow abortions only if the mother's life is in danger. It moves to the full House (COMMERCIAL APPEAL[MEMPHIS]). • The **COLORADO** Senate kills SB 167, which would have forced employers to give nursing mothers two 10-minute breaks to pump breast milk (ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS [DENVER]). • The **KENTUCKY** Senate endorses SB 125, which would require that women seeking abortions be told in person of medical risks and alternatives at least 24 hours before the procedure. It moves to the House (COURIER-JOURNAL [LOUISVILLE]). • The **WISCONSIN** Assembly approves a constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriage and civil unions in the Badger State. Voters must also approve the measure in November for it to go into effect (JANESVILLE GAZETTE).







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