



**The Washington Flyer**  
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*“It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us, that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion.”*

**Abraham Lincoln**

**AACS Legislative Office Hosts Spring Lobbying Days**

Each spring, AACS state and regional legislative directors travel to D.C. to meet with Members of Congress on behalf of our schools. The purpose of the AACS Lobbying Days is to introduce our organization to new Members of Congress, establish relationships with congressional offices, educate congressional staffers, explain the mission and current legislative priorities of AACS, and reinforce the daily work and initiatives of the AACS Legislative Office. State and regional legislative directors include representatives from AACS ministries across the country in multiple congressional districts and states. As constituents, their meetings with the congressional offices are especially effective. The transitory nature of many staffers and politicians in D.C. makes this annual visit a crucial part of the outreach efforts of our office. This year’s Lobbying Days included a focus on protecting religious freedom. Our state and regional directors asked congressman, senators, and their staffs to protect our ministries’ religious liberty by working to pass the [First Amendment Defense Act](#). Over a period of two months, Gary Click (Ohio), Joseph Hansen (Mid-America), Gary Moger (North Carolina), Tim Schmig (Great Lakes), Paul Smith (Southeast), and Dan Zacharias (Mid-East), and several pastors who attended with them made over 200 contacts on Capitol Hill. God gave them many profitable meetings. We have continued to receive positive feedback about their visits and are grateful to these men who have cheerfully given their valuable time and efforts to educate Members about the importance of retaining our fundamental American liberties.

**Select Investigative Panel Fighting for Pro-life Cause**

Late last year the U.S. House of Representatives voted 242-184 to create the House Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives. The select panel was [tasked](#) to “gather information and get the facts about medical practices of abortion service providers and the business practices of the procurement organizations who sell baby body parts.” Rep. Betty McCollum (D-MN) offered an amendment last week during the appropriations process in an attempt to shut down the panel, but that measure was defeated by a vote of 20-28. Since its creation, the select panel has issued numerous subpoenas to various institutions. Those organizations include Stem Express, an organ procurement company that profited from contracts with Planned Parenthood for the purchase of aborted baby remains for “research”; the University of New Mexico, a tax-funded institution that operates a free-standing abortion business; and Southwestern Women’s Options, an abortion facility that conducts abortions throughout all nine months of pregnancy resulting in numerous documented injuries. The subpoenas were issued after all three organizations failed to cooperate with requests to turn over documents to Congress that were critical to the panel’s investigation. This month, the panel launched an investigation into late-term abortionist LeRoy Carhart and practices by a Germantown, Maryland, abortion clinic. Since December, at least five women who sought an abortion at this clinic have been injured and hospitalized. The panel has also held numerous congressional hearings on the issue.

## **Eleven States Sue Administration Over Bathroom Policy**

Last week, [eleven states](#) sued the Obama Administration, charging that the recent action by the Departments of Education and Justice to force a new transgender policy on all public schools is unconstitutional. Referring to the recent guidance letter, several agency documents, and the lawsuit against the state of North Carolina, the states cite ten counts of illegal activity which violated either federal law or the U.S. Constitution. The Obama Administration has been endeavoring to advance the transgender agenda by claiming the word *sex* as used in Title IX—a 1972 law which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex—refers to gender identity and sexual orientation and therefore all public schools must make accommodations for transgender students or risk losing federal aid. However, the lawsuit filed by the states points out: “The text employed by Congress does not support the term ‘sex’ as anything other than one’s immutable, biological sex as determined by birth. Rather, Congress expressed its intent to cover ‘gender identity,’ as a protected class, in other pieces of legislation. . . . In those pieces of legislation, Congress includes ‘gender identity’ along with ‘sex,’ thus evidencing its intent for ‘sex’ to retain its original and only meaning—one’s immutable, biological sex as determined at birth.” The complaint further [charges](#) that the Administration “conspired to turn workplaces and educational settings across the country into laboratories for a massive social experiment, flouting the democratic process, and running roughshod over common-sense policies protecting children and basic privacy rights.”

### **In Case You Missed It:**

[43 Republicans Join Democrats to Support Obama’s Transgender Agenda](#)

[Why the Education Department’s New Equity Rule Might Not Be So Equal](#)

[Planned Parenthood Pushes California to Convict Reporters as Felons for Investigating Abortion Practices](#)

[Weekly Market Update](#) provided by Jeff Beach of the [AACS Investment Team at Merrill Lynch](#)

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