



**The Washington Flyer
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“Abraham Lincoln recognized that we could not survive as a free land when some men could decide that others were not fit to be free and should therefore be slaves. Likewise, we cannot survive as a free nation when some men decide that others are not fit to live and should be abandoned to abortion or infanticide.”
Ronald Reagan

Today—March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Today, the [March for Life](#) will take place in Washington, D.C., as an effort to bring awareness to pro-life efforts to save lives by ending the practice of abortion. The annual march has been organized since 1974, one year after the Supreme Court’s *Roe v. Wade* decision which legalized abortion. Nellie Gray, the [founder of the march](#), decided that she would organize the event each year until the infamous decision was overturned. This year, the Supreme Court is poised to [make a decision](#) in the case *Dobbs v. Jackson* which could return power back to the states in deciding the legality of abortion and thus overturn *Roe v. Wade*. The organizers for this year’s March for Life have chosen as the theme “Equality Begins in the Womb.” Jeanne Mancini, president of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund, [explained](#), “Americans everywhere know that unborn children deserve equal rights and protection under the law. We expect this year’s March for Life to be historic with even higher levels of enthusiasm from participants. We are hopeful that, with *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* . . . , 2022 will bring us much closer to building the culture of life we have all marched for since *Roe v. Wade* was tragically imposed on our nation nearly 50 years ago.” A pre-march rally will be held at 12 noon and can be viewed via livestream [here](#).

National School Choice Week Is Just Around the Corner

[National School Choice Week \(NSCW\) begins January 23, 2022](#), providing families and schools an opportunity to highlight the positive impact that school choice has had in the lives of thousands of students. Since 2011, NSCW participants have attended over 150,000 events. After last year’s expansion of school choice programs across the country, thirteen states this year are including school choice fairs to bring awareness to parents of the opportunities that are available to them for their children. [Additional highlights](#) for NSCW 2022 will include rallies at state capitols, events at schools participating in choice programs, proclamations issued by lawmakers, and several state and national landmarks lighting up in honor of School Choice Week. To find an event in your state, please [click here](#).

As enthusiasm grows nationwide for school choice opportunities, NSCW may prove to be the start of another great year for school choice expansion. In [Arizona](#), Governor Doug Ducey announced that vouchers would be available to parents to send their children to a school of their choice if their current school shuts down, even for a day. [Kentucky lawmakers](#) have filed a bill that would expand the tax credit scholarship program that was enacted last year. In [Virginia](#), political pundits are recognizing that newly elected Governor Glenn Youngkin’s victory was due largely to [parents deciding](#) they wanted more of a voice in their children’s education. As teachers’ unions and some public school districts continue to [push for closures](#), mask mandates, and inclusion of gender and divisive racial ideologies, the energy grows among parents calling for more school choice options.

Emails Show Secretary of Education Cardona Requested NSBA Letter

According to [emails](#) obtained by the non-profit group Parents Defending Education, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona requested the now [infamous letter](#) sent by the National School Board Association (NSBA) to President Biden which then resulted in a [memo](#) from Attorney General Merrick Garland instructing the FBI to investigate parents who opposed the actions of school boards. The Garland memo was issued just five days after the NSBA letter was sent to the White House, causing many to question whether there had been some collaboration between the Administration and the NSBA in drafting the NSBA letter. The recently obtained emails reveal that the NSBA letter had been written by Chip Slaven, the acting interim executive director for the NSBA, to “provide information to the White House, from a request by Secretary Cardono [sic].” The U.S. Department of Education has denied that the Secretary requested the NSBA letter, [stating](#) only that “to understand the views and concerns of stakeholders, the Department routinely engages with students, teachers, parents, district leaders and education associations.” However, GOP lawmakers on Capitol Hill are calling for more investigation. Rep. Virginia Foxx (NC), ranking Member on the House Education and Labor Committee, [stated](#), “It is abundantly clear to me that Secretary Cardona must answer to the Education and Labor Committee, Congress on the whole, and especially the American people. Anything less is an insult to the proud parents who want to better the education of their children.”

Supreme Court Hears Oral Arguments Defending Display of Christian Flag

On Tuesday, the Supreme Court heard [oral arguments](#) in *Shurtleff v. City of Boston*, a case concerning Boston’s decision not to allow a Christian flag to be flown on a city hall flagpole. Over twelve years, all 284 requests to fly different flags in front of city hall were approved, until the request by Camp Constitution, a civic organization that educates families on constitutional principles, requested that the Christian flag be flown to commemorate Constitution Day on September 17, 2017. The city denied the request because the organization requesting it was Christian, even though the city of Boston displays Bible verses and Christian phrases on government buildings across the city. The city also argued that flying flags constituted government speech and a government endorsement of Christianity, although several other ideological flags, including the LGBT pride flag, were allowed to fly freely on city property. [Liberty Counsel](#), representing Mr. Shurtleff, held a rally in front of the Supreme Court on the morning of oral arguments and invited AACS Government Relations Director Jamison Coppola to speak about the importance of religious liberty in this case. Mr. Coppola stated, “It has always been a mark of commendation that America provides protections for the natural rights of all citizens to speak freely and to live our religious belief. . . . We do not gather as a special interest group seeking special protections. . . . We have come seeking the unique liberty promised in our First Amendment: the liberty of equal status in society as religious people.”

In Case You Missed It:

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

[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Promise to America’s Children](#)

[Religious Leaders Push Back Against Canada’s Conversion Therapy Ban](#)

[U.S. Dept. of Ed Announces Joint Action with Dept. of Transportation to Help Bus Driver Shortage](#)