

Faith and Public Policy Workshop
Archdiocese of Atlanta
November 18, 2010



Catholics

answering the call to
political responsibility

Let Us Pray For Our Nation

Workshop Agenda

- Principles of Catholic Social Teaching
- Forming consciences & How a Bill Becomes a Law
- Current issues
- Taking Action

Conscience



for

Faithful Citizenship

A Call to Political Responsibility
from the Catholic Bishops
of the United States



Conference of Catholic Bishops

Formation of Conscience

- Open to truth of Scripture and Tradition
- Examination of facts and background
- Prayerful reflection
- Exercise of Prudence
- Avoid doing evil

How a Bill Becomes a Law

- Idea !
- Legislator goes to Legal Counsel
- Legislator files bill with Clerk of House or Sec. of Senate
- Bill title read in chamber
- Committee assignment



Bill process continued

- In House, Clerk reads bill title in chamber
- In Senate, reading after committee approves
- Committee considers bill, public hearing
- If bill reported favorably, returns to Clerk or Secretary of Senate
- Bills placed on General Calendar
- Rules Committee decides calendar for next day's floor consideration

Bill process continued

- Presiding Officer calls bills from Rules Calendar
- Clerk reads Bill title and Bill is debated
- Main question is called, members vote, majority needed to pass Bill, Sent to other chamber
- If second chamber passes Bill, it is returned to house where bill was introduced to consider changes; may be assigned conference committee
- Bill is enrolled, may be sent to Governor
- Governor signs Bill
- Bill becomes law

Current Issues Related to Catholic Social Teaching

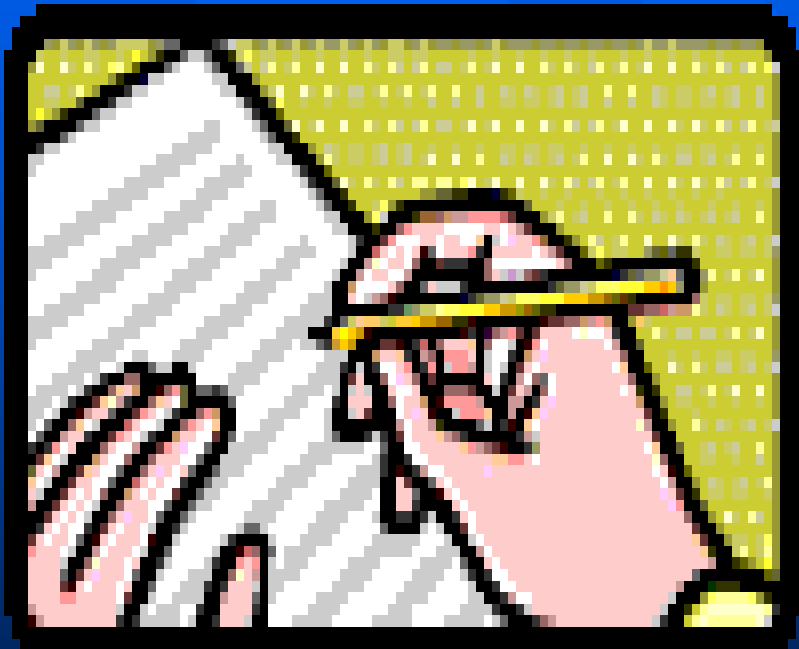
- Respect for Human Life
- Immigration
- School Choice
- Human Trafficking
- Legislation to Assist the Poor

Citizen Participation

- Pray
- Offer ideas for bills
- Call or Meet with Legislators
- Committee Meeting
- Lobby your legislator

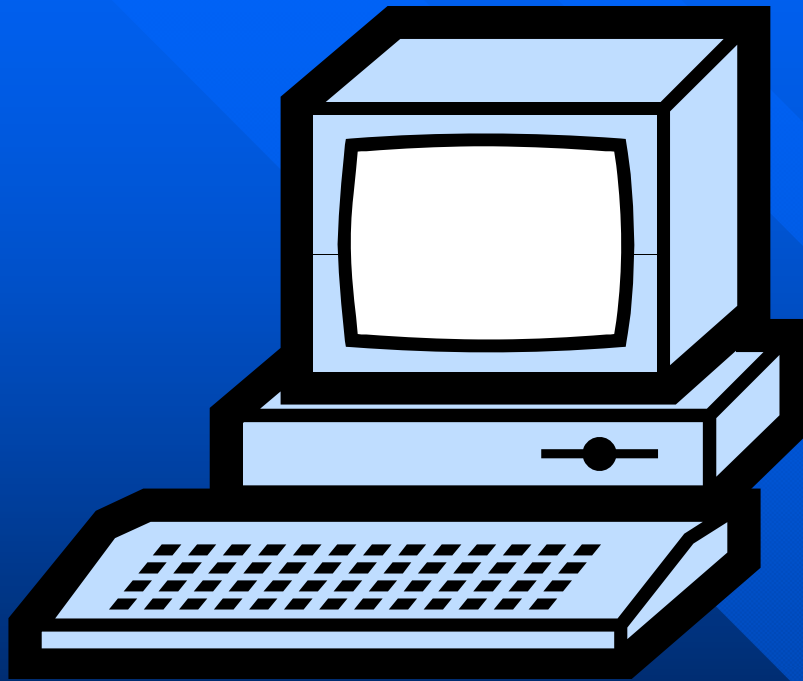


Write To Your Legislator



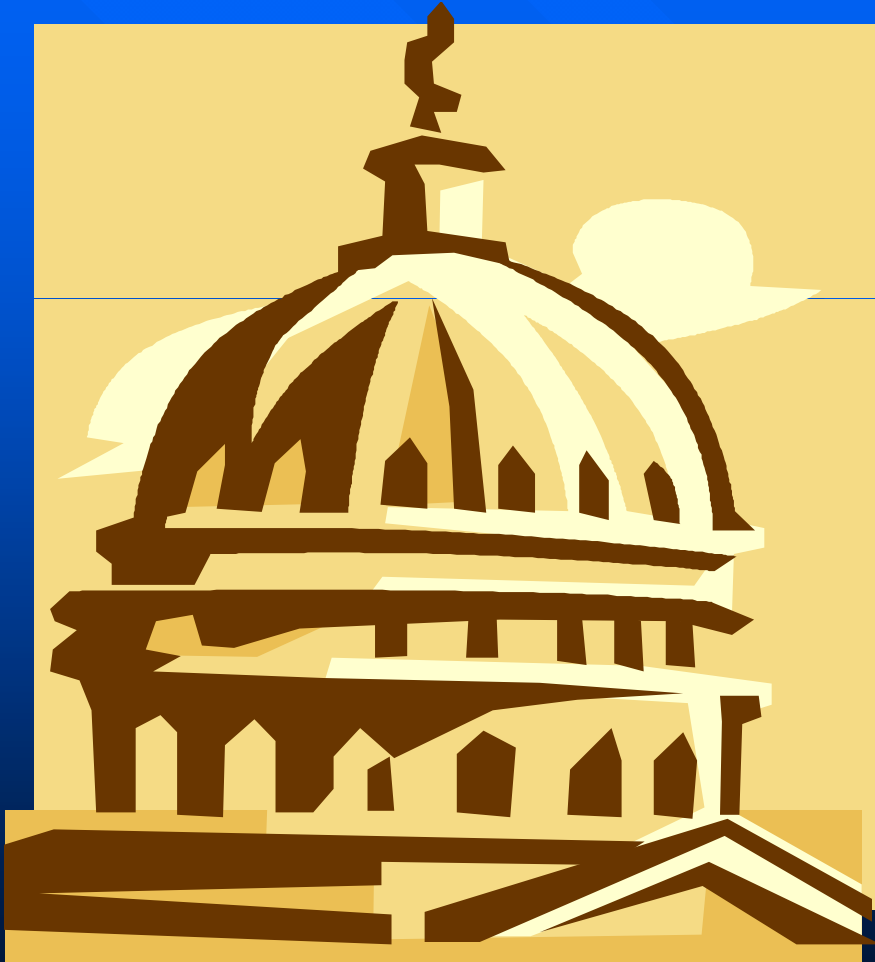
- Share ideas
- Urge passage or rejection of bills
- Thank your legislator for public service

Stay Informed Yourself and Inform Others



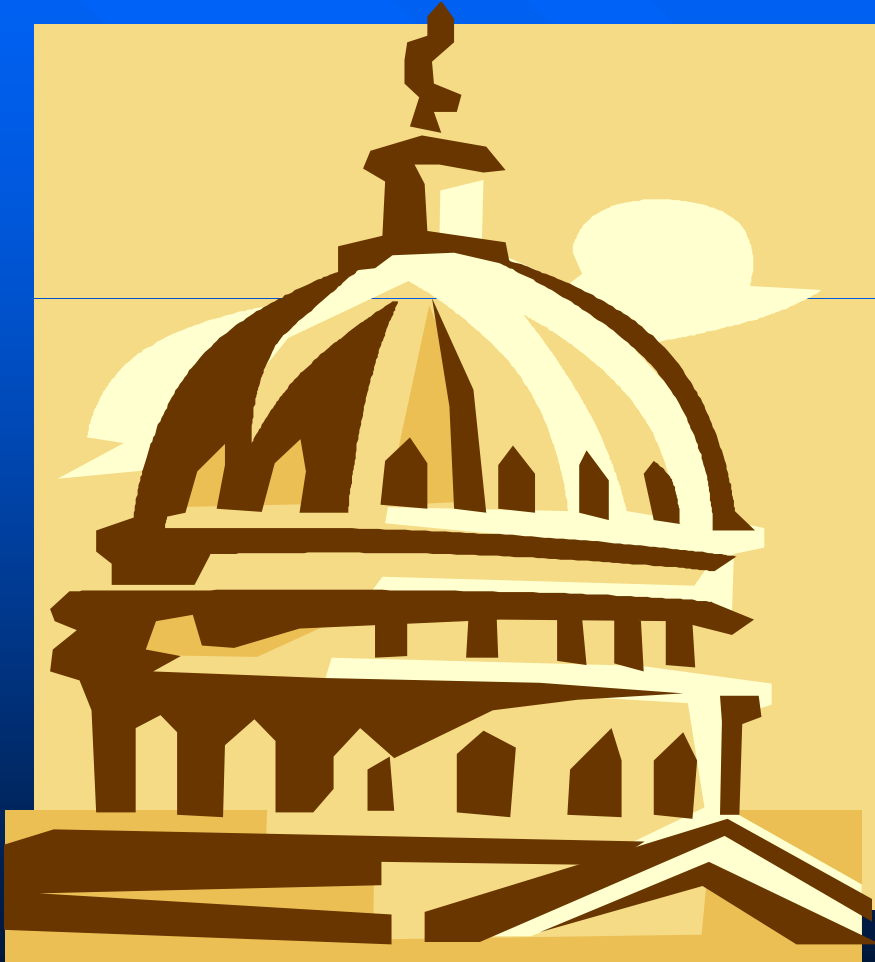
- Email legislator
- Email your friends and interested people
- Georgia Catholic Conference website for alerts and legislative reports

Catholics in Political Life



- Apply Catholic moral and social teaching to public policy issues
- VOTE!!!!
- Church does not endorse or oppose candidates
- Church does not distribute partisan literature
- Church does not assist candidates

Catholic Day at the State Capitol



- Legislative Briefing
- Meet your Legislators
- Visit the Senate and House in session
- Tour of the Capitol
- Pray together
- February 8, 2011

Questions and Answers

