

# Georgia insight

*"She hath done what she could."  
Mark 14:8a*

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## The Astronomical Cost of Giving Sanctuary to Illegal Aliens

Researchers say households headed by illegals cost \$2,700 *more* in annual benefits than that household pays in federal taxes. In 2002 illegals received \$26.3 *billion* in federal benefits, but paid only \$16 *billion* in federal taxes – a federal tax net deficit of almost \$10.4 *billion*. If they were given amnesty, then paid taxes and used services at the same rate services are used by *legal* immigrants with the same education, *annual* costs to taxpayers would *go up from \$2,700 to nearly \$7,700 per household* - \$29 *billion*, *almost triple* the federal deficit illegals cause now.

States estimate annual costs in benefits to immigrants – 11 percent of the population, but comprising 20 percent of the poor population – range between \$11 *billion* and \$22 *billion*.

**New York's sanctuary** policy began when Democrat Mayor Ed Koch created the New York City sanctuary policy by executive order in 1989. In 1997 Mayor Giuliani defended it, but lost in court. In 1999 a three-judge U.S. Circuit Appeals Court called the N.Y. sanctuary situation nothing more than an unlawful refusal to enforce federal immigration laws. By 2002 some 400,000 illegal aliens weren't tracked, but lived as though they were citizens in New York City.

Then, on November 19, 2001, New York City mayor-elect Michael Bloomberg said, "People who are undocumented do not have to worry about city government going to the federal government. We will provide the services, whether they are health care services or education for their children or anything else we can do ...."

**San Francisco's sanctuary** policy began in 1980 and put law enforcement at a disadvantage. After the Los Angeles city council told police they couldn't ask suspected criminals about their immigration status, the *Los Angeles Daily News* reported: "The effect has been to make L.A. an asylum for illegal aliens, a place where all could come to escape the law."

**Georgia sanctuary surfaced as an issue** last year on January 15, 2008 as Senator Pearson of District 51 introduced S.B. 340, prohibiting state and local government agencies from giving safe haven to illegal aliens. S.B. 340 went through every step of the legislative process from January 15<sup>th</sup> through April 4<sup>th</sup>, but died on April 4, 2008 when the House disagreed with a final change in the Senate. Though it didn't pass, all legislators could use it as "campaign fodder".

### ***This Year: Senators Try Again to Prohibit Sanctuary for Illegal Aliens***

**S.B. 20** introduced January 13<sup>th</sup> by Senators Pearson, Rogers, Seabaugh, Williams and Mullis passed the Senate 37 – 9 on February 24<sup>th</sup>, and went to the House. If it passes, there could be no sanctuary policy to protect illegal aliens in Georgia. That means no local government could stop officials or employees from reporting a person's immigration status. Local governments that defy a sanctuary ban could lose their state funding or state administered federal funding.

**ACTION – Support.** Call Governmental Affairs Committee Representatives Scott, Ch., 404 656-5132; Meadows, 656-0298; O'Neal, 656-5103; Brooks, 656-6372; Butler, 463-2245; Chambers, 656-3949; Floyd, 656-0314; Hamilton, 656-0188; Hatfield & Morgan, 656-0109; Mosby, 656-0287; Oliver, 656-0265; Jay Powell, 656-0177; Alan Powell, 656-0202; and Ralston, 656-0213.

## ***Federal Deportation of Illegal Alien Prisoners***

*“It is the intent of the General Assembly to ensure that aliens subject to deportation are not released from prison into the Georgia community.” – S.B. 136*

**S.B. 136** by Senators Douglas, Rogers, Chance, Staton, Hawkins, Shafer, *et al*, requires the Department of Corrections to establish a federal deportation program with federal, state and local agencies. One such plan is the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Rapid Removal of Eligible Parolees Accepted for Transfer (REPAT) plan.

Illegal aliens would be identified during the prisoner intake process and no parole release date could be set until a final deportation order took effect. A parole granted an alien prisoner subject to deportation would be conditioned on the prisoner’s abiding by the deportation order, as well as all U.S. immigration laws. Violators would serve the remainder of their sentence.

**ACTION – Support.** Contact Rules Committee Senators Balfour, Ch., 656-0095; Hamrick, 656-0036; Seabaugh, 656-6446; Adelman, 463-1376; Butler, 656-0075; Hill, Jack, 656-5038; Hooks, 656-0065; Johnson, 656-5109; Moody, 463-8055; Pearson, 656-9221; Rogers, 463-1378; Shafer, 656-0048; Smith, 656-0034; Thomas, 656-6436; Tolleson, 656-0081; Unterman, 463-1368; and Williams, 656-0089.

## ***Registered Sex Offenders***

**S.B. 145** by Senators Mullis, Unterman, Thomas, Butterworth, Hamrick, *et al*, involves judicial discretion in any action seeking a modification or change in the custody of a child. The bill states that, in and of itself, residing with or marrying a person whose name is on the state sexual offender registry shall constitute a change of material condition or circumstance.

**ACTION – Support.** Contact the Judiciary Committee Senators Smith, Ch., 404 656-0034; Harp, 463-3931; Hamrick, 656-0036; Adelman, 463-1376; Brown, 656-5035; Cowsert, 463-1366; Crosby, 463-5258; Fort, 656-5091; Judson Hill, 656-0150; Reed, 463-1379; Seabaugh, 646-6446; and Wiles 657-0406.

**S.B. 14** by Senators Douglas, Rogers, Goggans, Murphy, Hawkins, *et al*, passed the Senate 48 – 0, seven didn’t vote and one excused. It is in the House Governmental Affairs Committee now. It states, “No person who is on the National Sex Offender Registry or the state sexual offender registry shall be eligible for election to or service on a local board of education.”

**ACTION – Support.** Call Governmental Affairs Committee Representatives Scott, Ch., 404 656-5132; Meadows, 656-0298; O’Neal, 656-5103; Brooks, 656-6372; Butler, 463-2245; Chambers, 656-3949; Floyd, 656-0314; Hamilton, 656-0188; Hatfield & Morgan, 656-0109; Mosby, 656-0287; Oliver, 656-0265; Jay Powell, 656-0177; Alan Powell, 656-0202; and Ralston, 656-0213.

## ***Another Reminder: Parental Authority All-But-Gone***

**H.B. 351** by Representatives Loudermilk, Rice, Coan, Mills, Walker, *et al*, introduced February 11<sup>th</sup> is necessary because Georgia’s Family Planning Law, enacted in the mid-1960s, was amended in the late 1960s to provide confidential reproductive services to anyone, regardless of age or marital status. So, a minor that chooses to be sexually active can go to a clinic in Georgia and obtain treatment, equipment and instruction on how-to and with-whom, without parental notification or permission.

Unfortunately, Public Health personnel moved into school clinics several years ago to be closer to the children they want to serve. Clinics in schools allows them to more discreetly access sexually active children who can be served even more often and, certainly, more confidentially.

**ACTION – Support.** Call House Judiciary Committee Representatives Willard, Ch., 404 656-5125; Ralston, 656-0213; Jacobs, 656-0152; Golick, 656-5943; Wilkinson, 463-8143; Allison, 656-0177; Bruce, 656-0314; Dobbs, 656-7859; Hatfield, 656-0109; Lane, 656-5087; Lindsey, 463-2245; Maddox, 656-0109; McKillip, 656-0220; Oliver, 656-0265; O’Neal, 656-5103; Shipp, 656-6372; Stephenson, 656-0126; Teilhet, 656-0298; and Weldon, 656-0152.

## ***S.R. 12, Encouraging Oil Wells in Georgia, Step Closer to Passing***

**S.R. 12** was introduced two days after the session began by Senator Pearson of District 51. This proposed constitutional amendment authorizes the General Assembly to (a) pay rewards to the first person or firm to put down and bring in the first commercial *well* that produces oil or gas or natural gas on land or off shore in the Atlantic Ocean within jurisdiction of this state. (b) It, also, authorizes the General Assembly to reward the person or firm who develops in this state a *method, system, or device* for substantial commercially viable energy conservation or energy production using products other than fossil fuels. Rewards would be divided among entities involved in the successful drilling or development of the new method, system or device. If passed in the General Assembly, it would be on the November 2010 General Election ballot. S.R. 12 passed the Natural Resources and Environment Committee on February 17<sup>th</sup>, and is awaiting action by the Senate Rules Committee.

**ACTION – Support.** Contact Rules Committee Senators Balfour, Ch., 656-0095; Hamrick, 656-0036; Seabaugh, 656-6446; Adelman, 463-1376; Butler, 656-0075; Hill, Jack, 656-5038; Hooks, 656-0065; Johnson, 656-5109; Moody, 463-8055; Pearson, 656-9221; Rogers, 463-1378; Shafer, 656-0048; Smith, 656-0034; Thomas, 656-6436; Tolleson, 656-0081; Unterman, 463-1368; and Williams, 656-0089.

## ***House Resolution Urges Drilling***

**H.R. 32** introduced by Representative Bearden, District 68 requests the Minerals Management Service of the U.S. Department of the Interior to include in its five-year planning process the Atlantic Planning Areas off the coast of Georgia. Already, Virginia's federal Atlantic outer continental shelf areas are included in the current 2007-2012 plan.

If passed by the House, the Clerk would transmit copies to the U.S. Secretaries of Commerce, the Interior, and Energy, as well as to the administrators of the Minerals Management Service, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION – Support.** Contact Rules Committee Representatives Ehrhart, Ch., 656-5141; Lunsford, 656-7146; Mills, 656-5099; Hugley & Porter, 656-5058; Barnard, 656-5138; Burkhalter, 656-5072; Casas, 656-0254; Chambers, 656-3949; Channell, 656-7856; Coan, 656-6801; Cole, 651-7737; Cooper, 656-5069; Drenner, 656-0202; Greene, 656-0314; Hanner, 656-7859; Jacobs, 656-0152; Jones, 656-5024; Keen, 656-5052; Lane, 656-5115; Manning, 656-7857; Millar, 656-5064; Morris, 656-0152; Mosby, 656-0287; Parham, 656-0202; Parrish, 463-2247; Randall, 656-0109; Rice, 656-5912; Rberts, 656-5025; Austin Scott, 656-5132; Shaw, 656-7859; Lynn Smith, 656-7149; Vance Smith, 656-7153; Bob Smith, 463-2247; Smyre, 656-0116; Stephens, 656-5122; Len Walker, 656-0152; & Willard, 656-5125.

## ***Can Georgia Remain a Right-to-Work State?***

*“Among his 11 executive orders so far, Mr. Obama has signed four that aid unions, part of a union-friendly blitz in his early days.... ‘Union-only PLAs (project labor agreements) drive up costs for American taxpayers while unfairly discriminating against 84 percent of U.S. construction workers who choose not to join a labor union. All taxpayers should have the opportunity to compete fairly on any project funded by the federal government,’ said Kirk Pickerel, president of Associated Builders and Contractors.”*

– Washington Times, February 7, 2009

**S.R. 273** was introduced February 12<sup>th</sup> by Senators Johnson, Hudgens, Balfour and Seabaugh as the legislature's second strong message encouraging Congress *not to include a project labor agreement* (PLA) requirement in economic stimulus legislation affecting Georgia. President Obama's executive order encouraging government agencies to use PLAs on projects over \$25 million, reportedly, also directs his administration to report back to him on whether he should go further and require PLAs for federal contracts.

**ACTION – Support.** Call Rules Committee Senators listed under S.R. 12 above.

## ***Urgent Message to President and Congress: Stop Trampling States' Rights***

*"The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, not prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States, respectively, or to the people."* – The Constitution of the United States, Tenth Amendment

**H.R. 470** by Representatives Franklin, Loudermilk, Reese, Setzler, Hatfield, *et al*, February 26<sup>th</sup> wonderfully affirms Georgia's constitutional rights. You'll like the parts quoted below:

*[A]ny act of Congress, executive order of the President of the United States, or judicial opinion of any federal court which assumes a power not delegated to the government of the United States and which serves to diminish the liberty of any of the several states or their citizens shall constitute a nullification of the Constitution by the government of the United States. Such acts include, but are not limited to:*

- 1. Establishing martial law or a state of emergency within one of the states without the consent of the legislature of that state;*
- 2. Requiring involuntary servitude or governmental service other than pursuant to, or as an alternative to, incarceration after due process of law;*
- 3. Surrendering any power, delegated or not delegated, to a corporation or foreign government;*
- 4. Any act regarding religion, further limitations on freedom of political speech, or further limitations on freedom of the press; and*
- 5. Further infringements on the right to keep and bear arms, including prohibitions of type or quantity of arms or ammunition.*

*[T]he members of this body affirm the sovereignty of the states under the principles upon which the Constitution of the United States is based and stand with the several states in seeking to ensure that the federal government only exercises those powers and acts in those areas in which it is specifically delegated powers by the Constitution, with the residual mass of powers being within the province of the several states to exercise and act as each state deems appropriate.*

*[T]he Clerk of the house of Representatives is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of State of the United States, the presiding officer of each house of the legislature in each state, and each member of the Georgia congressional delegation.*

**H.R. 280** by Representatives Scott, Benton, Jerguson, England, Allison, *et al*, February 17<sup>th</sup>, also, affirms Georgia's constitutional rights as a state, though more briefly. It declares in part:

*[T]he United States Supreme Court has ruled in New York v. United States, 112 S. Ct. 2408 (1992), that Congress may not simply commandeer the legislative and regulatory processes of the states;*

*[A] number of proposals from previous administrations and some now pending from the present administration and from congress may further violate the Constitution of the United States.*

*[T]he State of Georgia hereby claims sovereignty under the Tenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States over all powers not otherwise enumerated and granted to the federal government by the Constitution of the United States.*

**ACTION – Support.** Call House Judiciary Committee Representatives listed at the bottom of page 2 under H.B. 351.

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