



ARIZONA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Legislative Update

ARIZONA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (01/27/12)

Catholic Schools Rally Time!

The Tenth Annual Catholic Schools Rally will be held at the Capitol (Wesley Bolin Plaza) on Wednesday, February 1st from noon until 1:00 p.m. You are encouraged to join the Catholic Bishops, House Speaker Andy Tobin, Senate President Steve Pierce, and nearly 1,000 students, teachers, and parents to show support for Catholic Schools and school choice legislation.

Also, next week the Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference will make their annual trip to the State Capitol. As part of these meetings, they will meet with key elected officials as part of an effort to build relationships and discuss important issues facing our State.

While there are a number of positive developments going on right now in Arizona, it is also important to note the recent bad news from Washington D.C. where the Obama Administration has issued a decision demanding that sterilization, abortifacients, and contraception be included in almost all health plans. This action threatens constitutionally protected freedom that ensures respect for the conscience of Catholics and all other Americans.

The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops is currently developing strategies to challenge this decision and we should be hearing more soon. In the meantime, the most immediate action people can take is to send a message to Congress in support of a legislative fix (H.R. 1179 and S. 1467) to this problem by going to www.usccb.org/conscience. We will let you know as more develops on this important matter.

Please feel free to forward this message and encourage the people you know to sign up for these free updates at www.azcatholicconference.org so that we can continue to expand our influence on matters of importance to the Catholic Church.