



**ARIZONA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE (04/08/11)**

Governor Brewer Signs Ultrasound Bill

Last weekend, Governor Brewer signed into law a very positive pro-life bill (HB 2416) that would require all women receiving an abortion to have the opportunity to view an ultrasound and hear the heartbeat of their baby at least an hour before the procedure. We are grateful to Governor Brewer for signing this bill which will better serve women and save the lives of many unborn children.

Earlier this week, another pro-life bill also made progress as HB 2384 was approved by the Senate and sent to the Governor. HB 2384, among other things, would prohibit people from receiving tax credits for donations to organizations providing or referring for abortions and will hopefully become law soon.

Similarly, on Tuesday, a tremendously beneficial bill (HB 2581) moved forward to increase the limits for the individual tuition tax credit program from \$500 to \$750 for single people and from \$1,000 to \$1,500 for married couples. HB 2581 would also increase the donor pool for corporations under the corporate tuition tax credit program and presently awaits action by the Governor.

If you have not already done so, please take a moment and send Governor Brewer a respectful note thanking her for supporting school choice in the past and politely asking that she sign HB 2581 into law. You can send such a message, by going to www.azcatholicconference.org and using our "Action Alert" system.

Finally, before the week ended, it should also be noted that the bill (SB 1188) to provide a preference for married couples in adoptions when all other factors are equal, passed the House and is now ready for Senate concurrence.

We expect much more action next week as the Legislature prepares to wrap up all business sometime this month.

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.