

MATERIALS CONVEYED TO THE
HOUSE LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE
OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONCERNING
HOUSE BILL 2626

BY THE
KEYSTONE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 18, 2008
AT
WILKES BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

INCLUDING THE WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF

CARRIS KOCHER
Bill of Rights Bicentennial Committee

JOHN W. STOREY, EdD
Association of Christian Schools International

ATTORNEY NICHOLAS A. BARNA
Tyler Hill, Pennsylvania

JOINT TESTIMONY OF 20 EVANGELICAL
CHURCH DENOMINATIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS

AL CREMARD, DD
Pastor, Independent Bible Church, Duryea

A month ago our Association presented testimony to your committee, identifying the position of our Association. I hope you carefully considered the text of the presentations as laymen presented practical content and illustrations of (among other subjects) (a) why teachers and content at a religious school are not secular, (b) how the imposition of these secular labor laws upon religious institutions would conflict with a wide range of churches with their unique polity, and (c) that the ideas contained in HB 2626 are far more encompassing than just "allowing the teachers to vote." Indeed, this proposal is far-reaching in its implications.

Today, KCEA's remarks adhere to the request of committee staff to not repeat what we previously provided to the committee in written and spoken testimony on August 18.

A month ago our testimony indicated that the KCEA position would be paralleled by a myriad of other evangelical groups; and I indicated that if further hearings were conducted, I thought you would hear from others.

Several groups have asked me to present you with their testimony, wishing to provide you with their thoughts but adhering to your request to abstain for consuming too much time. I present the written comments of several groups and individuals:

1. An individual closely related to the celebration of the bicentennial of the US Constitution.
2. The evangelical Christian school association with the most member schools and participants in the state of Pennsylvania, the Association of Christian Schools International.
3. A local private attorney who is thoroughly familiar with the Scranton region as a life-long resident. He is also thoroughly familiar with the beliefs and practices of evangelical churches and Christian schools in the area.
4. Several church groups that have worked together to provide you with one statement on behalf of 20 church denominations and fellowships along with many independent churches that look to these groups. (This joint effort will save you some reading time!!!)
5. Dr. Al Cremard as he relays the position of his church and the opinion of a group of 50 pastors of independent evangelical local churches in the Scranton area.

Thank you for your attention to each of these important writings.