



American Family Association of Pennsylvania Weekly Update

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News From Around PA A newly formed coalition of LGBT, HIV/AIDS and elderly service orgs demand: PA to specifically name LGBT older adults in Dept. of Aging's 2012-16 State Plan on Aging; add reps of LGBT/HIV AIDS populations to Council on Aging and Cultural Diversity Advisory Council, implement cultural-competency and sensitivity training.

Will PA schools who participate in the UN International Baccalaureate **Program** (IBO) be next? A Manhattan elementary school will be first in city to require students study Arabic -- twice a week for 45 minutes. The CEO for Global Language Projects says, "Arabic has been identified as a critical-need language," while citing students' future "career trajectories." PA Dems call for party to endorse "Freedom to Marry"

New from National Scene

The **Department of Defense** is removing military edition Bibles from its exchange stores following a complaint from the Military Religious Freedom Foundation. DoD previously gave permission for Bibles to use branch insignia, as they regularly allow vendors to use the insignia for other items.

Polling shows support for same-sex "marriage" (SSM) increasing . . . or not! About 4 in 10, or 38 percent, of Americans support SSM, while 24 percent favor civil unions. Thirty-three percent oppose any form of legal recognition. When civil unions are eliminated as option, opposition to SSM rises to 51 percent, compared with 42 percent support.(Remember 32 attempts to pass state Marriage Protection Amendments -- MPAs -- have resulted in 32 wins!!)

Minnesota-based **General Mill's** VP for global diversity and inclusion states, "We do not believe the proposed constitutional amendment (MPA in MN) is in the best interests of our employees or our state economy. We value diversity. We value inclusion."

New US Dept. of Justice federal prison regs: Facilities must evaluate incoming transgender inmates on a case-by-case basis, as opposed to simply relying on biological sex. Leon King, openly gay former Philly Prison Commissioner says, "There's а longstanding prison tradition that if you have a penis you go with the men, and if you have a vagina you go with the women. That's old thinking."

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