



## **2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: Week 3 Summary** **March 19-23, 2007**

### UPDATED LEGISLATIVE REPORT

As the third week of session comes to a close, the link below contains an updated Legislative Report that includes descriptions of bills, positions and comments on current legislation being followed by the Conference.

> [Legislative Report, Updated March 23](#)

### LIFE AND DEATH

#### [Parental Notice of Abortion](#)

##### **HB 1497 (Traviesa) / SB 1602 (Storms)**

HB 1497 is anticipated to be heard by Healthcare Council next week. The Conference supports this bill, which intends to strengthen provisions of 2005 law by including requirement for court to appoint guardian ad litem and definition of maturity standards. SB 1602 has not yet been scheduled by first committee of reference.

#### [Ethical Research Environment](#)

##### **SB 750 (Geller) and SB 2496 (Haridopolos)**

Both bills are on the Senate Health Policy Committee agenda for Tuesday, 3/27. The Conference supports SB 2496, which establishes a program to fund only non-destructive embryonic stem cell research, and opposes SB 750, which provides funds for non-ethical forms of embryonic stem cell research.

#### **HCC 07-10 by Health Council**

The Conference is monitoring new legislation filed this week in the form of a council bill. The bill was released and moved through the Health Council. The original proposal contained prohibitions on the use of state funds for destructive embryo research and human cloning, but these provisions were removed.

### SOCIAL CONCERNS

#### [Power Plants/Integrated Gasification](#)

##### **HB 549 (Traviesa) / SB 1202 (Bennett)**

Providing for a cleaner technology for coal fired plants, HB 549 has passed through all committees of reference and will go to the full House next. SB 1202 is now in General Government Appropriations, its last committee of reference. The Conference supports this bill.

### EDUCATION

#### [Human Papillomavirus \(HPV\) Vaccination](#)

##### **HB 561 (Homan) / SB 660 (Fasano)**

The House version was heard in the Committee on K-12, where it was temporarily postponed after a substitute amendment removing parental requirements for action related to the HPV vaccine failed. The Conference provided testimony in support of the substitute amendment, viewing it as an improvement to the alternative proposal. Concerns with the existing language are available in a [letter to the Senate sponsor](#). The Senate Education Pre-K-12 Committee was scheduled to hear the bill but also temporarily postponed it. The Conference is seeking amendments to this legislation.

## HEALTH

### Children's Health Insurance

#### **KidCare Proposals**

The Senate Health Appropriations Committee completed Thursday afternoon what its chair considered their "final" approach to streamlining the KidCare program. The House Healthy Families Committee also workshopped their proposal (**HCC 07-04**) Tuesday morning. There is some difference in approach, particularly with regard to involvement of different state agencies in program oversight. Both bills contain components that will improve the KidCare program.