New American

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Inside Track

Idaho House First to Nullify ObamaCare

On February 16, the Idaho House became the first state legislative body to pass a measure to nullify the entire ObamaCare law within a state. The measure, HB117, was sent to the state Senate by a vote of 49-20. Only seven Republicans voted against the bill, along with all of the House Democrats.



Idaho State Rep. Vito Barbieri (R-Dalton Gardens) introduces a bill on February 25 to nullify Congress' federal healthcare reforms in the state of Idaho. *(Photo credit: AP Images)*

The Associated Press reported: "Idaho's bill declares the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act unconstitutional and forbids enforcement of penalties against residents. It also prohibits Idaho state and local governments from enforcing the federal law and also bars them from taking federal money or using their own resources — to put the measure into effect."

According to one of the bill's sponsors, Rep. Vito Barbieri: "The bottom line is, we're directing the state agencies to stop spending time and money."

Here are a couple of key sections of the bill:

(1) Section 3, Article I, of the Constitution of the state of Idaho provides that "The state of Idaho is an inseparable part of the American Union, and the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land." The Constitution of the United States sets forth enumerated powers to the federal government created thereby, and reserves all other powers to the people and the states pursuant to the Ninth and Tenth Amendments to that Constitution....

(6) Implementation of an unconstitutional law is contrary to the Legislature's obligation to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, Section 3, Article I, of the Constitution of the state of Idaho. The Legislature of the state of Idaho, therefore, on behalf of the citizens of this state and to secure the blessings of liberty, hereby asserts its legitimate authority to interpose between said citizens and the federal government, when it has exceeded its constitutional authority and declares that the state shall not participate in

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and considers void and of no effect the PPACA [Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, popularly known as ObamaCare].

Put simply, this legislation, if enacted by Idaho, would stop ObamaCare at the state border. ObamaCare nullification measures have been introduced in at least 11 other states: Texas, Montana, Wyoming, Oregon, Indiana, Maine, Nebraska, Oklahoma, New Hampshire, South Dakota, and North Dakota.

Maryland County Cancels Agenda 21 Participation

Last November's political "sea change" hasn't ebbed. In what is believed to be the first such action of its kind in the entire nation, the five-member Board of County Commissioners in Carroll County, Maryland, recently voted to abolish the county's Office of Sustainability. They speedily followed that move with a vote to quit the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), the front group launched by the United Nations to carry out the provisions of its huge Agenda 21. Both votes were unanimous.

A report appearing in the *Washington Examiner* credited Commissioner Richard Rothschild for leading the way for his colleagues, and maybe for the nation, because approximately 600 local governments in the United States have already signed on to what the *Examiner* termed "this Trojan Horse." Rothschild insisted that ICLEI was ultimately an attack on private property rights and charged that its version of "sustainability has less to do with the environment and everything to do with economics. It's an attack on capitalism, and an attack on America's middle-class lifestyle." As expected, promoters of "Sustainability" and "Smart Growth," two of many nice-sounding labels attached to the ICLEI and Agenda 21 plan, have sought to discredit the commissioners in hopes of reintroducing their overall UN plan.

Undaunted, Rothschild responded with a signed article in the local paper. He wrote: "Sustainability invokes government power to enforce activists' views of environmentalism. They want to replace farmers', ranchers', and other landowners' concept of stewardship with government-centric control. It merges environmentalism and socialism to expand government into every aspect of our lives, including land use, food production, housing, transportation, manufacturing, energy rationing, and even health care." And he labeled ICLEI "an organization with extreme beliefs on global warming that promotes United Nations' big-government socio-economic policies."

The *Examiner's* James Simpson identified what he saw as the goal of the "prominent socialist leaders from around the world" promoting the scheme.

He claimed they were working toward "1) abolishing private property and redistributing it according to socialist goals worldwide, and 2) herding humans into small urban communities where, stripped of freedom and mobility, we will live and work according to government diktat." And he pronounced that the action taken in Carroll County, Maryland, is "custom made for Tea Parties."

Movieguide's "Faith & Values Awards"

While award shows like the Oscars and the Golden Globes acquire all of the media hype, the Faith and Values Movieguide Awards are gaining more traction in some Hollywood circles. Dubbed the "Christian Oscars," the Faith and Values Movieguide Awards celebrate films that espouse uplifting, inspirational, patriotic, and spiritual elements. The 19th Annual Faith and Values Awards ceremony was held at the

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Universal Hilton Hotel in Universal City, California, on Friday, February 18.

According to Dr. Ted. Baehr, founder of Movieguide, the awards are for those who continue to promote positive values within the motion picture industry. The award categories range from Best Films for Family Audiences to the Grace Awards, which are handed to actors or actresses whose performances best exemplify God's glory and mercy.

"Since we've been doing this, the number of R-rated films has dropped from 82 percent to about 30 percent," Baehr told Fox News prior to the gala event. "The number of movies with positive Christian content has gone from 1 percent to 60 percent, and movies with moral content has [sic] gone from 10 percent to 80 percent. We see the studios wanting to make money.... Even *Chronicles of Narnia* and some of the other really big films that have strong faith content do it because they understand there's an audience out there."

Dr. Baehr handed out over 25 awards on Friday night, including the coveted \$100,000 Epiphany Prizes that are given to one movie and one television program epitomizing "man's love for God or understanding of God."

The winner of the Epiphany Prize for the Most Inspiring Movie of 2010 is *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* from 20th Century Fox Pictures. The movie, which is based on the C.S. Lewis classic, focuses on the Christians' struggles with temptation and sin.

Amish Grace received the Epiphany Prize for the Most Inspiring TV Program of 2010. Based on a true story, *Amish Grace*, which premiered on Lifetime Television, depicts what transpires when a gunman senselessly takes the lives of five girls in an Amish community.

The prestigious Grace Award for Most Inspiring Performance in Movies was awarded to Kevin Sorbo for *What If*, a film about a man's journey back to God after the man abandoned Him years earlier in pursuit of a life of glitz and glamour. The Grace Award for Most Inspiring Performance in Television went to Madison Mason for *Amish Grace*.

Toy Story 3 from Pixar and Disney Pictures was Movieguide's pick for Best Movie for Families, followed by Despicable Me, The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader, Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole, Shrek Forever After, Tangled, What If, How to Train Your Dragon, Letters to God, and Megamind.

For Best Movie for Mature Audiences, the winner was *Secretariat* from Walt Disney Pictures, followed by *The Book of Eli, The King's Speech, True Grit, Letters to Juliet, Mao's Last Dancer, Iron Man 2, Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time, Alice in Wonderland,* and *Get Low. Secretariat* is based on the true story of a race horse and the woman who owned him.

Mao's Last Dancer earned the Faith and Freedom Award (for movies) for promoting positive American values. The film was a very worthy candidate for this award since it told the true story of professional dancer Li Cunxin, who, on a visit to the United States, defected from China and made a life for himself. *Christmas With a Capital C*, which aired on the Gospel Music Channel, received the Faith and Family Award for television programs.

It seems each year that the number of family and Christian-based films continues to grow, and as such, the Movieguide Awards grow in popularity. As families flock to the theaters and tune into these quality films on their television, they send the mass media conglomerates the message that Americans continue



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to have a taste for Christian values.



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