

From: feedback@bill10courtchallenge.org

Sent: Monday, November 20, 2017 7:52 AM

To: 800 Clergy

Subject: Bill10CourtChallenge.Org - Follow-up Report #7

References:

- A. Bill 10 – *Act to Amend the Alberta Bill of Rights to Protect Our Children* passed Mar 10, 2015
- B. My email – Bill10CourtChallenge.Org – Follow-up Report #6, dated Oct 12, 2017
- C. [Statement on Bill 24](#) (subsequently taken down), Hon. J. Kenney, Leader United Conservative Party (UCP), dated Nov 7, 2017
- D. [Bill 24 – An Act to Support Gay-Straight Alliances](#) passed Nov 14, 2017
- E. Press [RELEASE](#): Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedoms (JCCF), posted Nov 14, 2017

1 - Background

On November 14, 2017, the Alberta Legislature passed Bill 24 – *An Act to Support Gay-Straight Alliances*. The Act doubles down on the legislation put in place by Bill 10 (Ref. A). In brief Bill 24 puts into law what was already understood policy ([by all parties](#)) since March 2015 and was Education Ministry [guidance](#) since January 2016. That is students can self-identify their sexual orientation/gender identity at school, can live out that identity at school, and can join a GSA, all without parental awareness and/or approval. The new law does not change these policies and guidance, but most significantly tweaks Bill 10 legislation by replacing the need for [ministerial orders](#) directed at independent Christian schools and by closing a [“significant gap in the law”](#) regarding *“welcoming, caring, respectful and safe”* accommodation of LGBTQ students in private schools. Bill 24 brings all “independent schools” under the same province-wide GSA legislative provisions. [Note: according to Alberta Education figures for 2015/2016, private schools represent 4 percent of the total student population.] At Ref. E, the JCCF released their intention to initiate a court challenge in early 2018 on behalf of a number of independent schools and associated parents should Bill 24 pass. It has passed! We need to applaud this decision and keep their efforts in our prayers.

The issues still at hand:

What of the remaining 96 percent of Alberta students, some 662,000 students (K-12)?

Indeed, what of the portion of these remaining students who come from Christian families?

According to the 2011 Census, over 60 percent of Albertans claim Christianity as their religion. This could mean 397,000 Christian kids are not attending an “independent school.” Their Charter freedoms and their parents’ rights are no less under assault by Bill 10 and 24 legislations. Equally, secular parents may not wish to see their children empowered and encouraged by the state along a Sexual Minority path secret from parental knowledge and approval. Secular parents may also not wish their children mobilized as social/political activists trained by the [Alberta Teachers Association](#) and [Alberta GSA Network](#), without parental oversight.

On 14 November, 2017, the UCP voted against Bill 24. Their reasoning is found at Reference C - [Statement on Bill 24](#).

2 – Recent Activities by Bill10CourtChallenge.Org

On November 14, 2017, an email was sent to the Hon. Mark Smith, UCP Shadow Minister of Education and all UCP MLAs. The email reads in part:

The attached [\[Bill10CourtChallenge.Org Response to UCP Statement on Bill 24\]](#) is respectfully submitted and is not intended to be an admonition of the UCP's position on Bill 24 (and Bill 10). There is a broad range of understanding and opinion on the collision of rights and freedoms surrounding Bill 10 and 24 legislation and Ministry of Education guidance for safe, caring and inclusive school environments. If the political task was easy, there wouldn't be so much controversy. Rather, the attached is a "plea" to the UCP to further consider a number of negative impacts from the bills that still deserve remedy on the behalf of Alberta "social" conservatives (religious or secular).

Clarification of the UCP position on a number of observations/questions would be most appreciated. The attached document addresses in greater depth four general areas of concern:

1 – Bill 10 law, including the resultant Ministry/ATA publications [Guidelines for Best Practices](#) and [GSAs and QSAs in Alberta Schools: A Guide for Teachers](#), should fall short of the [Oakes Constitutional Legal Test](#) for rationality, minimal impairment and proportional effects. The UCP position: "We support the common-sense status quo, the same status quo the NDP has supported until this week" effectively ignores this reality. The "status quo" is really not okay.

2 – Inserting the Alberta Teachers Association between parents and their children and empowering ATA teachers with the tasks of "human sexuality advisors" and "outing arbitrators" fails to recognize the historical/biased/activist roles the ATA has played in sponsoring and advocating the very Sexual Minority ideologies and political/social activism that aggravate most conservatives. Indeed, the 46,000 member ATA has [fully endorsed Bill 24](#). The politically left-leaning and religiously insensitive conduct by the ATA has been on-going long before the Alberta NDP came to power.

3 – GSAs are not anything like a school chess club or football team. All can agree on the goal of welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments for Alberta students. However, the current "blank cheque" approach on GSAs, written in response to this goal, does not serve social conservative interests. Bill 24 – An Act to Support GSAs further restricts historical policy and oversight powers of school boards, while nothing is being done to clarify/constrain the potential for controversial and unconstitutional activism in our schools by GSA clubs. What is truly in the best interests of all Alberta youth and their parents is unambiguous legislated boundaries defining what these clubs can and most importantly cannot do.

4 – Bill 10 legislation added to the Alberta Bill of Rights S.1 (g) the right of parents to make informed decisions respecting the education of their children. Why was this done? Leader Kenny's statement offers a powerful reason: "to ensure the moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions, rights which were recently affirmed by the Supreme Court of Canada." The Alberta Family Law Act affirms his statement and the School Act S.50.1 empowers parents through mandatory notification of "implicit" teaching on human sexuality and permits student opt-out provisions for their children. So why would the UCP

continue to overturn/reverse/nullify the proceeding rights by accepting the “status quo” – i.e. empowerment of the same sons/daughters (K-12) to usurp parental oversight/authority by self-identifying LGBTQ etc. at any age, by living a secret double life at school, by secretly joining a GSA/QSA, and by secretly connecting with the Alberta GSA Network, all without parental awareness or approval?

The full analysis related to these four concerns is found at [Bill10CourtChallenge.Org Response to UCP Statement on Bill 24](#). **This is a recommended must read (20 mins).**

3 – Request to Clergy

Prayer is requested for the Holy Spirit to reveal to Believers the truths surrounding Bill 10 and Bill 24 legislations, associated Education Ministry guidelines, and political party positions. Pray for Christ’s hand upon this matter. Pray for wisdom and discernment within the Body of Believers in responding to this continuing anti-Christian encroachment in all Alberta schools and the on-going erosion of parental rights. Pray for the JCCF legal challenge. Pray that a better balance of rights and freedoms is found for all Alberta students and their parents.

Peace and Grace in Christ.

Carman Bradley