

Sent 10/14/2006

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From the HSLDA E-Alert Service...
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October 12, 2006

HSLDA--Help Defend Homeschooling

Dear HSLDA member,

We have less than four weeks to go before the crucial mid-term elections. The results of this November 7 will significantly impact the direction of the country because, for the first time in over a decade, control of both the U.S. Senate and U.S. House is realistically at stake. A change in party control could have a wide ranging impact on homeschoolers.

Based on Home School Legal Defense Association's experience of protecting and defending homeschooling on the state and federal levels, I can assure you that the Republican majorities in Congress are friends of homeschooling. This is not only demonstrated through their actions, with Congresswoman Marilyn Musgrave sponsoring HoNDA, which helped many homeschool families who were facing discrimination via quirks in federal law, but is also clearly stated in the party platform: "We [the Republican Party] defend the option for homeschooling and call for vigilant enforcement of laws designed to protect family rights and privacy in education."

This strong, positive stance on homeschooling is not shared by many Democrats and their education union allies. It is very clear that the Democrat Party's ties with the National Education Association have and will continue to influence its stance on educational freedom, and we know how the NEA feels about homeschooling.

I also want to remind you what will occur should Democrats take the majority in the U.S. House: George Miller of California will likely be the Chairman of the Education Committee. Twelve years ago, George Miller attempted to introduce an amendment that would have required that all teachers, including homeschool moms, be certified teachers. He may try something similar if he ever gains the chairmanship of this important committee.

Our homeschooling freedom is fragile. One amendment passed by a Democrat-controlled House and Senate could find its way into law.

HSLDA will do everything, with your help, to stop this from happening, but our job, to defend your right to homeschool, will be much easier with government leaders who support our position. We are all in this together and the homeschool community must play its role to defend our own freedom.

The lines are clearly drawn for us on the homeschool, life, and marriage issues. I am convinced that we must do all that we can to ensure that Republicans maintain control of Congress on November 7.

To that end, HSLDA PAC has endorsed candidates in key races around the country, and in the last week of the campaign, the PAC is sending out numerous teams of homeschool students to participate in key House and Senate races. These young people will be working hard to "Get-Out-The-Vote." They will campaign door to door, make literature drops and call thousands of voters. This work must occur if we are to prevail. Time and time again, it has been shown that an effective grassroots effort can sway a political race, even if the polling data is against your candidate.

I'm asking that you not only vote and volunteer for the pro-family candidate in your area, but that you help support these young people in their efforts. The PAC will be helping pay their travel, lodging, and food expenses for the last week of the campaign. It is possible to donate online to the HSLDA PAC at <https://secure.hslda.org/pac/donate.asp> .

Please donate today. A gift of \$10 from every person on this email list will ensure that the young people are fully funded in their efforts to fight for our right to homeschool.

For Liberty,

Mike Smith
HSLDA President

P.S. Please go to <https://secure.hslda.org/pac/donate.asp> and donate today. A donation of \$10 will mean a great deal.

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