

Advertisers News

NEW PRODUCTS & SERVICES FROM ADVERTISERS IN THE TEACHING HOME

Highlights of new resources from suppliers in the home-school community.



Alpha Omega Publications

Switched-On Schoolhouse Health Quest. New. Grades 4-7. One-semester CD ROM elective. Teaches the importance of personal hygiene, fitness methods, and personal and ecological stewardship. Techniques for proper exercise with step-by-step slide shows and videos.

Switched-On Schoolhouse College Planner. New. High school. This CD ROM course guides students through the college application process. Designed as a one-semester credit course to help students in college planning, selection, and application.

Switched-On Schoolhouse Spanish 1. Ages 13-18. One year of study equivalent to first semester college-level Spanish. Students will be able to ask and answer basic questions, initiate and respond to simple statements, and maintain limited conversations about familiar topics. (See ad p. 6.)



Explorer's Bible Study

God's Perfect Plan: Exploring Bible Prophecy from Genesis to Revelation. New. Three levels: grades 5-6; 7-12; and adult. Student workbooks and answer keys. The entire family can study the complete scope of Bible prophecy together. Can use for family devotions tied to daily home-school lessons. (See ad p. 18.)



Bob Jones University Press

Little Bear Adventure Series. Republished. Ages 2-6. Stories teach children lessons: *Little Bear's Big Adventure* (courage); *Little Bear's Surprise* (showing love); *Little Bear's Secret* (making friends).

For God and His People. Ulrich Zwingli and the Swiss Reformation. New. Ages 15 and up. In Switzerland in the 16th century, Zwingli sought to reform the church according to the Scriptures despite dangers. 286 pages. (See ad p. 10.)

BooksBloom

Who Should We Then Read? Authors of *Good Books for Children and Young Adults.* New. Resource guide containing biographies of 140 authors along with a list of their books reflecting a Christian world view. 219 pages. (See ad p. 54.)



Christian Liberty Academy

Name Change. Christian Liberty Academy Satellite Schools (CLASS) has changed their name. Renamed Christian Liberty Academy School System (same acronym), the Academy continues to offer a complete line of quality Christian curriculum with the level of administrative support desired by each family. The reason for the name change was the confusion with the term "satellite school." CLASS does not use satellite technology. Satellite school used to refer to an off-campus branch of a school. (See ad p. 14.)

Christian Liberty Press

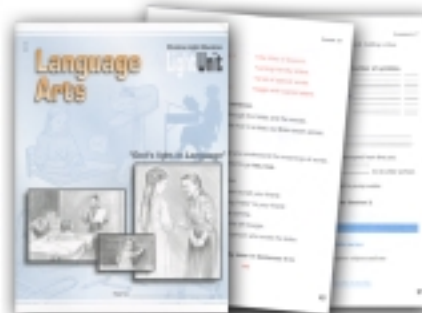
Pinocchio's Quest. New. Grades 4-6. A new version of Pinocchio written with a spiritual perspective, including symbolism, moral principles, and the Gospel. 224 pages. Also supplemental coloring book for younger children.



Christian Liberty Nature Reader. Books 2 and 3. Second editions. The study of God's creation reveals the majestic splendor of His handiwork. Book 2 contains studies of crabs, wasps, bees, spiders, shellfish, and worms. Book 3 contains studies of ants, flies, beetles, barnacles, jellyfish, sea stars, and dragonflies.



Adventures in Phonics. New. Level C. Phonetic principles are followed by a page of exercises to apply the rules of the lesson. Includes advanced phonics, syllables, prefixes, suffixes. 188 pages. (See ad p. 56.)

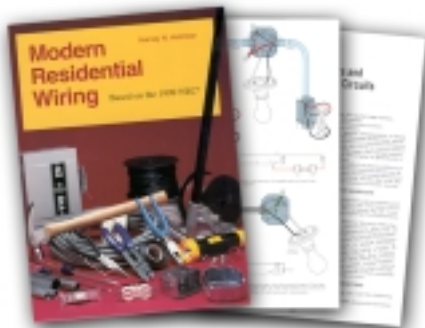


Christian Light Publications

Language Arts. Sunrise Edition. New. Grade 3. Includes cursive penmanship, spelling, grammar, diagramming sentences, punctuation, use of dictionary and encyclopedia, vocabulary, book reports, writing letters and reports, creative writing, and poetry. Ten student LightUnits, teacher's guidebook (296 pages).

Doors to Discovery. New. Third Grade Reader. Character-building stories, simplified Bible passages, and poems.

Bible Activity Book. Based on Scripture. Codes, word scrambles and searches, eliminations, puzzles, clues, projects, dot-to-dots, coloring dotted letters, and mazes. 65 pages. (Continued on page 9.)



Modern Residential Wiring. New. High school elective. Basics for installing electrical wiring in homes or in light industrial applications. Introduces electrical fundamentals, circuit theory and components, electricians' tools, grounding essentials, types and components of wiring systems, device wiring, reading prints, electrical remodeling. Based on the 1999 National Electrical Code. Includes textbook, study guide, workbook, tests, teacher's guide, answer key. (See ads pp. 12, 33.)



Creation Adventures

New. Grades K-12. Science workshops and lectures filmed live with home-school classes, hands-on demonstrations, and out-of-doors settings. Use as a supplement or as a unit study. Each set contains two videos (approximately 1.5 hours each), activity pages of related information and projects, and an enhancement packet of project supplies.

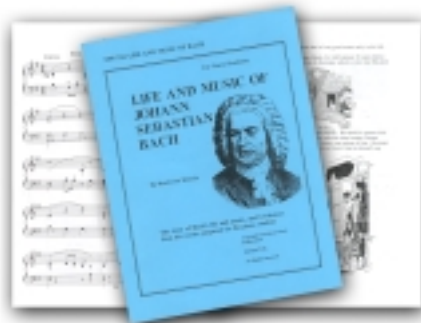
Series includes: California Indian Life, Survival (disaster preparedness), A Tour of Old Jerusalem (33 A.D.), Noah's Ark and the Flood, and Trees. Creation Adventures, Box 15652, Long Beach CA 90815, scivideos@mail.com.

Home School Legal Defense



Defending Liberty: The HSLDA Story. New. This 36-minute video tells of the courage of moms and dads standing in the gap to ensure that home-school rights are respected and freedoms protected. Encourages families to stand

together to present a united front to preserve our freedoms. (See information about joining HSLDA on p. 30.)



Davidsons Music Publications

Life and Music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

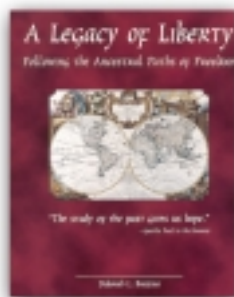
Interesting stories of Bach's life, faith, and contribution to the music world. Thirteen of his greatest themes are arranged for a level two (second year) piano student. Text, 36 pages, audio tape. (See ad p. 18.)

Rod and Staff Publishers

The Little Flock. New. An overview of the history of the church from a Conservative Mennonite perspective.

Spanish Texts. New and revised texts for the Spanish speaker. *Bible Stories* has been revised. Level A of the *Serie Aprendamos de Dios* (Let Us Learn About God Series) has been revised; includes reading workbooks, practice sheets, writing workbook, teacher's guide, flash cards, and wall cards. New Spanish storybooks.

New Posters. John 3:16; Psalm 23; Days of Creation; and Mammals. Also Blossom and Bee set of three posters for grades 2 and 3 math drill and review. (See ad p. 18.)



Stirling Bridge Books

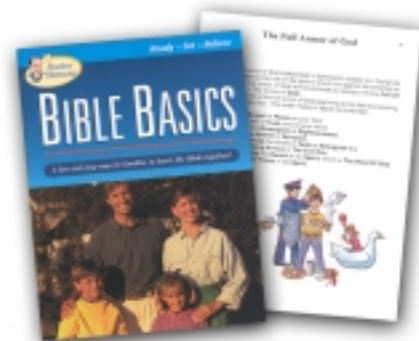
A Legacy of Liberty. New. Advanced junior high and up. Set of 16 audio tapes (32 lectures) and 800 pages of printed material. History of governments, law, philosophies, and comparative world views. Traces the beginning of external liberty in "Christendom" (Europe), the phenomenon of common law in Britain, through the planting of the colonies in the New World, and culminates in the ratification of The United States Constitution. (See ad p. 22.)



Learning Adventures

A World of Adventure. New. Grades 4-8.

A one-year Christian unit study based on world history. Covers all subjects (Bible, character training, language arts, science, social studies, fine arts) except math. Daily lesson plans. Six units: Egypt, Greece, Rome, Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation, Age of Exploration. 789 pages. (217) 932-4038, Learning-Adventures.org



Lucas Educational Systems

Lucas Learning System. New. Any age.

Four sets of books and audio tapes: Bible Basics; States & Capitals and The Presidents; The Times Tables; Grammar Graphics. A memory system using graphic illustrations. (See ads pp. 14, 16.)



Greek 'n' Stuff

Latin's Not So Tough. New. Level 4, year 4. Review of Latin alphabet, vocabulary, and grammar. Learn remaining declensions and conjugations (present active indicative), various macron and accenting rules, and additional vocabulary. Work-text, 200 pages, answer key, flash cards, quizzes/ exams. (See ad p. 16.)

Research News

CURRENT RESEARCH OF INTEREST TO THE HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Recent and Major Research Answers Questions About Home-School Families

by Brian D. Ray, Ph.D., President
National Home Education Research Institute



Home schoolers: Who are they? Why do they teach their own children? Are their children learning? How will they do in the "real world"?

New home schoolers and critics of home education ask these questions. Multiple researchers conducting hundreds of studies have addressed these and other questions during the past two decades.

Why Do They Home School? It is well known among educators and many others that there is a "hidden curriculum" in the schools. It has more to do with values and acculturation than with the three Rs. The struggle over who will control what goes into the minds and affect the hearts of children is nothing new in America.

Home educators are aware of this and have elected to be the ones in charge of their children's whole education rather than leave it up to the agents of the state or a private school.

Research shows that the most frequently cited reason for home schooling has to do with wanting to teach and transmit a particular set of values and beliefs and a world view to children.

Parents also frequently talk about five other important reasons for home schooling: to accomplish academic excellence; to individualize the curriculum and learning environment to meet the unique strengths and needs of each child; to enhance family relationships; to provide guided and reasoned social interactions with youthful peers and adults; to keep their children safe (physically, sexually, psychologically) and free from drugs and alcohol.

Who Are They? On average, home educators have more than the national average of children per family, over 90 percent are married-couple households, their household incomes are close to America's median family income, the parents have a little more formal education than the national average, more than 75 percent regularly attend religious services, and the large majority are of the Christian faith.

Although the above are averages, it should be noted that home schooling "in-

cludes (but is not limited to) atheists, Christians, conservatives, libertarians, and liberals; families with 5-, 10-, and 17-year-old children; low-, middle-, and high-income families; Black, Hispanic, White, and Asian people; parents with Ph.D.s, parents with bachelor's degrees, and parents with no degrees; and families containing 1, 5, and 10 children" (*Home Schooling on the Threshold*, p. 7; see box below).

How Well Are They Learning? Twenty years of research show that the home educated typically score at the 65th to 80th percentile on standardized achievement tests—15 to 30 points above public-school peers. Numerous nationwide and state-specific studies corroborate these findings.

Those planning to go to college are outscoring public-school graduates on the ACT and SAT tests. Interestingly, family income and whether parents are certified teachers has little relationship to the children's achievement.

Are They Socially Competent and Civically Involved? Dozens of studies confirm that the home educated are socially and psychologically healthy and they and their families are civically and socially active.

Although it may not be a biblically important idea, several researchers have found the self-concept and self-esteem of the home educated to be healthy and strong. Dr. Delahooke compared the social and emotional development of private- and home-schooled students.

The only significant difference was that "private school subjects appeared to be more influenced by or concerned with

peers than the home-educated group." It appeared that home-educated children perceived their parents as primary authority figures more often than did the private-school children.

Researcher Tillman found "that these home schoolers are not isolated but active, contributing members of society, even in childhood. Ninety-eight percent are involved in weekly church meetings and other activities which require interfacing with various ages and settings." Drs. Smith and Sikkink concluded: "The empirical evidence is clear and decisive: private schoolers and home schoolers are considerably more civically involved in the public square than are public schoolers."

Researchers have found that the home educated are doing well in terms of social, psychological, and emotional development. Perhaps the fact that most of these children have siblings and are engaged in various social activities makes the research findings on socialization not surprising.

How Do They Fare in the "Real World"? First, it should be noted that two researchers found adults who were home educated have a positive outlook on their home-school experiences.

Limited research suggests that the home educated are prepared to take jobs in all areas of modern life, including industry and technology. It appears they attend college at about the same rate as do conventional schoolers. Once in college, they do at least as well as their conventionally schooled peers in terms of academic achievement and critical thinking.

One study found that the home schooled in college held significantly more positions of leadership and semesters of leadership service than did one group of students from institutional schools.

Many are beginning to realize that the home educated are doing well in the work place, in college, and in the "real world." Of course, they have been educated in the real world all along.

Comprehensive Report of Home-School Research



Home Schooling on the Threshold, compiled by Dr. Brian Ray, is the most comprehensive report of research on home schooling to date. This 24-page, color-illustrated report furnishes many substantiated research facts for legislators, family, friends, and newspaper editors. It shows that the home educated are doing well in terms of aca-

ademic achievement, socialization, and success in adulthood.

Home Schooling on the Threshold is \$3.95 postpaid; three copies: \$9.95; 10 copies: \$19.95. Bulk rates available.

National Home Education Research Institute publishes the quarterly *Home School Researcher* (\$19/yr). NHERI is a nonprofit research and educational organization; contributions above the value of the publications are tax deductible. National Home Education Research Institute, Box 13939, Salem OR 97309; (503) 364-1490; nheri.org; mail@nheri.org.

Legal News

PROVIDED BY HOME SCHOOL LEGAL DEFENSE ASSOCIATION

Information was excerpted from HSLDA's Home School Court Report and is not given as legal advice.

Items have been selected to represent current legal issues in the home-school community. Many other states are also involved in similar legislative activities.

For information on how to comply with current laws or to find out how you can help preserve home-school freedoms, contact an organization listed on page 33.

Please pray that freedoms will be preserved and that the Lord will be glorified.

COLORADO

Gov. Owens signed into law Senate Bill 186, allowing home-school families to file their annual notice and 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 11th grade assessments in any district in Colorado. (Parents may file the assessments with a private or parochial school instead, but must inform the district in which they filed their notice of intent.)

Other details of S.B. 186 will affect only some families, as follows:

Only the school district the parents choose can request inspection of parent's permanent home-school records if there is probable cause to believe the family is in violation of the home-school law.

Home-school students are entitled to participate in extracurricular and inter-scholastic activities in the district where the notice was filed.

The new law requires parental consent in determining the grade level to which a child is assigned if a home-schooled child is placed in a government school. It also requires the government school to "accept the transcripts" from the home school.

CONNECTICUT

On May 26, 2000, Gov. John Rowland signed H.B. 5276, raising the compulsory attendance age from 16 to 18, unless the child has graduated from high school. A parent may consent to a 16 or 17 year old's withdrawal from school by signing a withdrawal form at the school district office.

Parents wishing to take advantage of the withdrawal option may complete the withdrawal form and avoid further compulsory attendance requirements.

INDIANA

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) has removed from its website all references to requiring private school or

home-school families to "register." HSLDA has dealt with issues arising from the unlawful insistence of officials that home-school families "register."

However, the following now appears on several IDOE websites: "Through this document, Dr. Suellen Reed, Indiana State Superintendent of Public Instruction, requests that you, as the administrator of a home school, report your school's enrollment to the IDOE."

Families need not report enrollment unless a specific request is made to a specific private school.

MISSISSIPPI

Under a new law signed by Gov. Ronnie Musgrove on April 17, 2000, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, and municipal law enforcement officers are now authorized to

investigate and prosecute truancy cases. Under the prior law, only the school attendance officer was authorized to file a petition in court to enforce the compulsory attendance requirements.

HSLDA opposed this legislation which effectively empowers law enforcement officers to perform a function which should be within the sole discretion of a prosecuting attorney. Without having a properly qualified state attorney evaluate the evidence in a truancy case before it is filed in court, families may be subjected to charges that are frivolous or intended to harass or intimidate home schoolers.

NEVADA

The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act says that public schools are no longer obliged to spend *state* money on children not enrolled in the public schools. *Federal* money for private school students is still available, however.

Despite the federal law, Nevada Senate Bill 213 requires school districts to provide special education and related services to home schoolers.

Summary of Home-School Laws in All 50 States

Thirty-seven states have adopted home-school statutes or regulations in the following years: 1997, DE, AK; 1996, MI; 1991, IA; 1990, NH, CT; 1989, ND, HI, ME*, OH; 1988, CO, NY, SC, NC, PA; 1987, MD, MN, VT, WV; 1986, MO; 1985, AR, FL, NM, OR, TN, WA, WY; 1984, GA, LA, RI*, VA; 1983, WI, MT; 1982, AZ, MS; 1957, UT*; 1956, NV.

* These three states still give superintendents or school boards authority to "approve" home schools. Note: Rules governing home schooling in MD, NY, and OH are state board of education regulations. In CT they are Department of Education "Guidelines." The rest are statutes enacted by state legislatures.

Forty-one states do not require home-school parents to meet specific teacher qualifications. Seven states, NC, NM, OH, PA, SC, GA, and TN, require a high school diploma or a GED.

The remaining two states have the following requirements: ND requires only a high school diploma or GED, provided the parent is monitored by a certified teacher for two years. WV allows parents with a GED or high school diploma to teach until the child reaches high school. The formal education of the parent must remain four years ahead of the student.

Three states require the "approval" of the local school district, school board, or state commissioner: MA, RI, UT.

Six states require instruction or amount of time to be "equivalent" to public schools:

CT, IN, KS, ME, NJ, NV. The term "equivalent" was struck down by courts as void for vagueness in MN and MO.

Three states require instruction to be "regular and thorough": MD, DE, RI. Idaho requires instruction to be "comparable" to public schools.

CA, KS, and NY require home-school teachers to be "competent," "qualified," or "capable of teaching." Less than a GED is recognized as competent. NY parents who comply with the home-instruction regulation are deemed "competent."

In at least twelve states, individual home schools may operate as private or church schools: AK, AL, CA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MI, NE, LA, PA, TX.

In five other states, *groups* of home schoolers, rather than individual home schools, qualify as private or church schools: CO, FL, ME, VA, UT.

Twenty-five states require standardized testing or evaluation. Ten states require standardized testing only: AR, GA, MN, NC, NM, ND, OR, SD, TN, NY. (Two do not require submission of results to the public school: GA, MN).

Sixteen of the 25 states provide an alternative to testing: CO, CT, FL, IA, LA, HI, ME, MA, NH, NY, OH, PA, VT, VA, WA, WV. (CT only requires a portfolio review. CO, NH, WA do not require submission of test results or evaluation to public school.)

OK is the only state with a constitutional amendment that specifically guarantees the right to home school.

General News

ITEMS OF NATIONAL INTEREST TO THE HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Changing of the Guard at HSLDA Sees Michael Smith Installed as Second President

NATIONAL CENTER - Michael Smith has become the second president of Home School Legal Defense Association. Michael Farris, who had been president of HSLDA from its inception in 1983, will now serve in a part-time capacity as Chairman and General Counsel.



"This change recognizes two realities," Farris said. "First, opening Patrick Henry College requires more and more of my time and attention. Second, HSLDA requires a full-time person in the office of president. There is no better person than Mike Smith. He has been a part of HSLDA from the beginning and has a proven love for the people God has called us to serve."

Farris's role as Chairman of the Board will enable him to continue to help give the organization vision and general direction. As General Counsel, Farris will continue to supervise all litigation conducted by the organization. He will also continue to direct HSLDA's federal lobbying program.

"Mike Farris is a bright, highly experienced constitutional lawyer," Smith said. "He is the best legal mind we have to analyze our cases and develop our strategy. Mike's willingness and enthusiasm to continue to lead our courtroom efforts is critical to the protection of HSLDA members and the rights of home schoolers."

In two other changes, Christopher Klicka has moved to the legal department where he takes up the role of Director of State & International Relations and serves as contact attorney for seven states. Doug Domenech has become the new National Center Director.

Ashcroft Confirmed as U.S. Attorney General

NATIONAL CENTER - John Ashcroft has extended his thanks to the home-school community for their tremendous support of calls, letters, and e-mails which helped in his confirmation as Attorney General.

Ashcroft is a proven champion of home-school freedoms. He personally led the fight to stop President Clinton's plan to impose national testing without congressional authorization.

The *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*, a dangerous threat to home schooling and parental rights, could receive Senate action for ratification. Ashcroft believes in the constitutional rights of Americans and the sovereignty of America to protect our families from this treaty.

It is impossible to overstate the long-range importance to all freedom-loving Americans that judges are screened by an Attorney General who believes in the original intent of the Constitution.

Federal Issues Update

NATIONAL CENTER - **Congress Fails to Override Marriage Tax Penalty Veto.** In September the U.S. House of Representatives attempted to override President Clinton's second veto of the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Bill (H.R. 4810). The 270-150 vote fell short of the two-thirds majority required by the Constitution for overriding vetoes.

House Revises NAEP. H.R. 4875, the bill reauthorizing the National Assessment Education Progress test (NAEP), was revised on July 26. The House Education Committee accepted three HSLDA reform recommendations:

1. The bill limits subject areas that can be tested.
 2. State and local educational agencies cannot be forced to participate in long-term NAEP assessment and may opt not to test.
 3. National testing is clearly prohibited.
- HSLDA is working with the Committee

President Bush Pledges Support for Home Schooling



"Educating our children is the most important thing we, as a nation, will ever do, and we must get it right.

"Education, in every form, must be concerned primarily about results. Home schooling has shown

those results. Research shows that children taught at home consistently score higher on national standardized tests of reading, math, and language skills.

"In Texas we view home schooling as something to be respected and protected—respected for the energy and commitment of parents; protected from the interference of government.

"If I am fortunate to be elected President, I will fight for parents everywhere to have more choice and to be able to play a larger role in the education of their children.

"Although some have called home-schooling a 'non-traditional' approach to education, the idea goes way back and is mentioned in Proverbs: 'Hear, my son, your father's instruction. And do not forsake your mother's teaching.' That's about as traditional as it gets.

"As President, I will work to protect and preserve this noble tradition in America."

This letter from President Bush was written to a home-school mom and circulated widely by the Bush campaign.

Pray for President Bush, that he will seek and follow the Lord's leading and stand for truth and righteousness under tremendous pressure to compromise. Also pray for his health and safety.

on additional changes. A national test means a national curriculum, which prevents teachers from tailoring instruction to pupils' needs. There is a solid foundation for action in the 107th Congress in 2001.

Congress Passes RLUIPA. Both chambers of Congress passed the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (S. 2869) by unanimous consent. This is a less offensive version of the Religious Liberty Protection Act passed earlier this year by the U.S. House.

However, S. 2869 still uses the constitutional power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce to protect religious freedom—a provision that HSLDA believes is unconstitutional and may increase federal regulation of religious activity.

HSLDA is disappointed in the manner by which this bill was passed. Not a single

Federal Government

U.S. Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

U.S. Senate: <http://www.senate.gov>

U.S. House: <http://www.house.gov>

The Honorable (Senator's Name), United States Senate, Washington DC 20510

The Honorable (Representative's Name), U. S. House of Representatives, Washington DC 20515

National Center for Home Education

HSLDA 24-hour legislative hot line:

(540) 338-1234.

National Center Web page:

<http://nche.hslda.org>

NATIONAL CENTER articles are submitted by National Center for Home Education (a division of Home School Legal Defense Assoc.), Doug Domenech, Executive Director, Box 3000, Purcellville VA 20134, (540) 338-5600.

While earmarked federal dollars must be spent on private and home-school students, the school district decides how to best allocate these funds.

Home schoolers in need of special education and related services may approach their local school for help. However, the district will likely not offer the same level of services that it provides to full-time public school students.

OREGON

On May 16, 2000, the Oregon State Board of Education adopted new administrative rules to supplement the new home-school law enacted by the legislative assembly in July 1999. The recently adopted administrative rules detail the procedures to be followed by parents and public school officials in home schooling.

SOUTH CAROLINA

The Department of Social Services (DSS) received a report that the daughter of a home-school family in Newberry County was below grade level in her academic achievement. DSS contacted the family and asked them to demonstrate from their records that their child was receiving instruction at a grade level commensurate with her age.

The family was conducting a home-school program under the auspices of an association for home schools having at least 50 members in accordance with §59-65-47 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina. This statute does not prescribe any particular standards for academic achievement which home-school students are required to attain.

After receiving this information and verifying the family's membership in the home-school association, DSS made no further inquiries of the family's educational program.

Editor's Note. Home School Legal Defense Association offers legal defense and assistance to home-school families and has served the home-school community in an outstanding and reputable manner. We recommend that you consider membership.

USA. HSLDA, Box 3000, Purcellville VA 20134, (540) 338-5600, www.hslda.org.

Canada. HSLDA of Canada, #2-3295 Dunmore Rd. SE, Medicine Hat AB T1B 3R2, (403) 528-2704, info@hsldacanada.org, www.hsldacanada.org.

Home Schooling in the United States: A Legal Analysis by Christopher J. Klicka contains a one-page summary for each state. It is available for \$20 from HSLDA, Box 3000, Purcellville VA 20134, www.hslda.org, (540) 338-5600.

vote was cast for or against it. By using the parliamentary procedure of unanimous consent, Congress deliberately bypassed the accountability of a recorded vote. The President is expected to sign this bill.

FY 2001 Appropriations. It is not uncommon for a program that has been eliminated to be refunded and by default, reauthorized. The Fiscal Year 2001 Education Appropriations Bill is no different. Here are a few key provisions HSLDA is following:

1. Goals 2000. Last fall HSLDA worked closely with members of House and Senate leadership to ensure that the most damaging parts of Goals 2000—Titles III & IV—were finally repealed and declared dead.

By eliminating these failed education titles, U.S. taxpayers were scheduled to save over \$500 million each year, and the failed one-size-fits-all education mandates of Goals 2000 were finally eliminated.

However, while the House zero-funded these programs, this year's Senate appropriators have sided with President Clinton and kept Goals 2000 going for another year by approving at least \$33 million for Title IV spending and \$3.5 million for Title VI—the National Skills Standards Board.

National Center is lobbying Congress to eliminate Goals 2000.

2. National Testing. HSLDA fought for and achieved inclusion of specific language prohibiting any funds from being used "to carry out any activities related to a federally sponsored national test" once again in this year's appropriations bill. This assures that no money can be used to develop and implement a test which could create a national curriculum.

Amending IDEA. National Center is working with Congress to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which discriminates against some home schoolers. In states where the law does not recognize home schools as private schools, home-school families with special needs children cannot receive federal assistance.

National Center's proposed amendment will include "home schools that operate as either a private school or home school under state law."

National Center is also working to end the requirement that families who do not want government services comply with certain "child find" mandates by states.

More Information. For additional resources and analyses of federal legislation that may affect home schoolers, go to HSLDA's website: www.hslda.org/docs/issueslibrary.asp. Also see contact numbers on previous page.