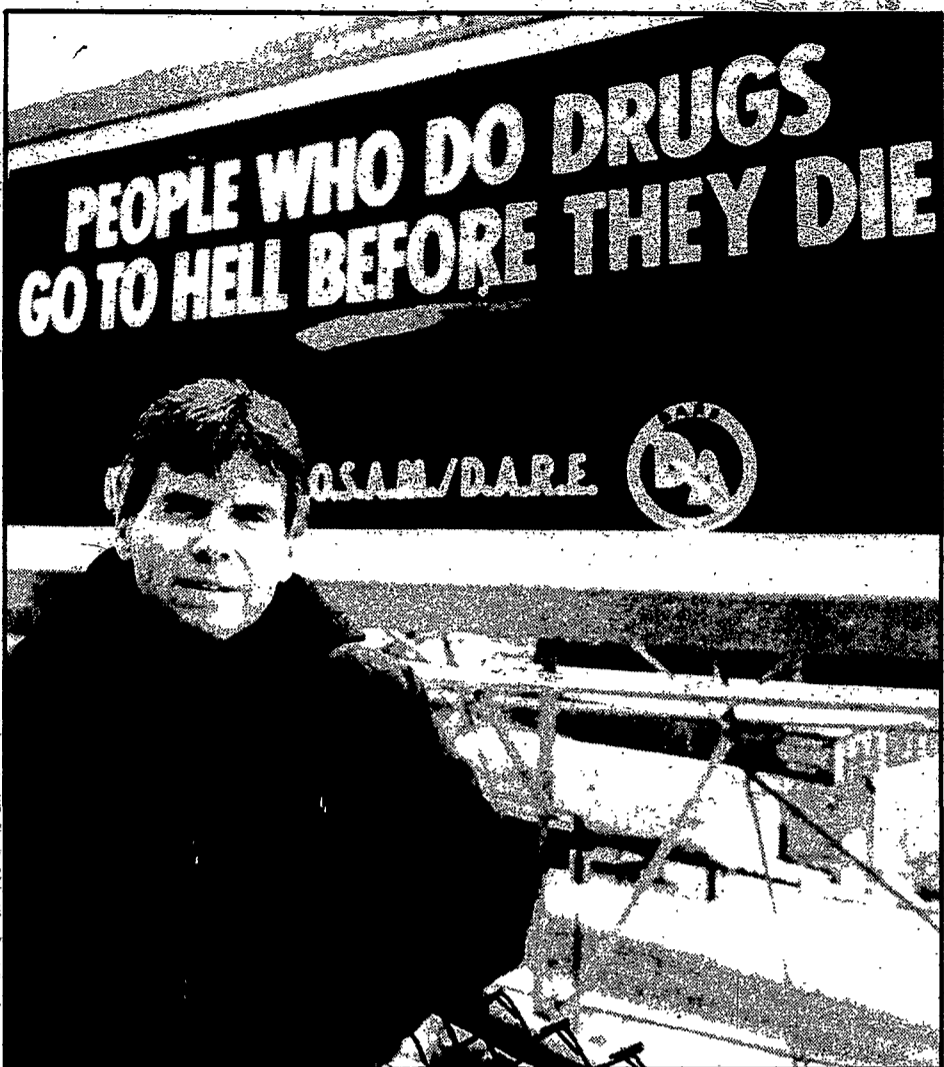


World & Nation



HARD SELL — Father Terence Attridge, executive director of the Archdiocese of New York's Substance Abuse Ministry office, stands in front of one of 25 anti-drug billboards erected in the Mount Vernon and Yonkers areas. The billboards are part of a pilot program for the archdiocesan drug and alcohol rehabilitation and education program.

Phoenix priest with AIDS asks for prayers

Phoenix, Ariz. (NC) — A priest of the Diocese of Phoenix who has been diagnosed as having AIDS has asked members of his parish to "think no less of me and to continue to pray for me, now more than ever, as I struggle to continue to carry this cross."

Father Robert H. Kelly, 49, resigned in mid-March as pastor of St. Louis the King Parish in Glendale, a Phoenix suburb. He and Phoenix Bishop Thomas J. O'Brien

wrote letters to members of the parish telling them Father Kelly has contracted acquired immune deficiency syndrome and explaining the priest's decision to resign.

In his letter, Bishop O'Brien said Father Kelly had been ill for several weeks and that doctors initially diagnosed him as having pneumonia. Further tests showed he was suffering from AIDS, "for which, unfortunately, there is no cure," the letter said.

Congress expected to override president

USCC disappointed by veto of amended civil-rights bill

By Stephenie Overman
 Washington (NC) — The general secretary of the U.S. bishops' conference has expressed disappointment that President Reagan vetoed "one of the most important pieces of civil rights legislation to come along in many years," the Civil Rights Restoration Act.

Monsignor Daniel F. Hoye, general secretary of the U.S. Catholic Conference, said the USCC was deeply disappointed and hoped that Congress would override Reagan's March 16 veto.

"We urge this action and will work actively to bring it about," Monsignor Holy said in a statement released March 17.

The USCC originally had expressed concerns about the bill, but supported it after it was amended to include both a provision preventing it from being used to demand abortion coverage and a "religious tenets" exemption to prevent religious organizations from being unduly burdened.

The Senate began discussion of overriding the veto March 17, and the House was expected to take up the bill Tuesday, March 22. A two-thirds majority would be needed to override. Both chambers had passed the bill by overwhelming margins.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act would overturn the 1984 Supreme Court ruling in the Grove City College case. The court ruled that only the federally funded program in such institutions as universities — not the entire institutions — could be penalized for civil rights violations.

Congress added the "abortion-neutral" amendment, specifying that nothing in the legislation could be construed to require or prohibit providing or paying for abortion services.

Reagan, on vetoing the bill, submitted to Congress an alternative version that he said would address what he called the "many serious shortcomings" of the act. The president said the bill he vetoed would "vastly and unjustifiably extend the power of the federal

government over the decisions and affairs of private organizations."

The vetoes bill would "diminish substantially the freedom and independence of religious institutions" and would "seriously impinge upon religious liberty because of its unprecedented and pervasive coverage of churches and synagogues, based on receipt of even a small amount of federal aid for just one activity," he said.

Reagan said his proposal would protect religious liberty by limiting coverage to the part of a church or synagogue that participates in federal program and would protect private institutions closely identified with religious organizations on the same basis as institutions directly controlled by religious organizations.

He said that, like the Civil Rights Restoration Act, his proposal included provisions "to ensure that this legislation does not impair protection for the lives of unborn children."

In his statement Monsignor Hoye said that, like Congress, the USCC believes the Civil Rights Restoration Act "will do much to strengthen federal civil rights protections while safeguarding vital concerns about human life and religious liberty."

Monsignor Hoye said the USCC believes that the legislation "adequately accommodates legitimate concerns in the area of religious liberty" and he warned that the "abortion-neutral" guarantees could be lost if the bill does not become law.

The week before Reagan's veto, the president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Archbishop John L. May of St. Louis, also had warned that church and other institutions could be forced to cooperate in abortions if Reagan vetoed the bill.

Archbishop May said the bill enacted by Congress, with the "abortion-neutral" amendment, was "a significant victory for civil rights and an important step forward in ensuring that our nation's civil rights laws do not violate fundamental convictions on human life."



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| 2. Do you live in New York State? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Is your yearly income \$15,000 or less if single, or \$20,000 or less if married? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Do you spend at least \$15 a month on prescription drugs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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