

Catholic activist opposes day-care bill

By Liz Schevtchuk
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Government should share tax breaks and the "peace dividend" with America's families, not set up a federal "baby-sitting bureaucracy," political activist Phyllis Schlafly told a Capitol Hill seminar April 27.

To help cope with child-care needs, "parents want a tax reduction ... not a federal baby-sitting bureaucracy," said Schlafly, president of the Eagle Forum.

"The solution is to cut taxes on people with children" and make it easier for mothers to refrain from working outside the home, Schlafly said.

Schlafly's talk, entitled "Stronger Families or Bigger Government: The Challenge of Child Care," was one of several presentations given during the forum, which was sponsored by the Eagle Forum.

Other speakers promoted efforts to coax corporations and businesses to provide more family-oriented job flexibility and discussed the option of working in a business at home.

Schlafly, a Catholic who led the successful fight against the Equal Rights Amendment, criticized a day care bill passed March 29 by the House of Representatives in preference to a White House-backed alternative. The bill's proposal for more public-school involvement

in day care "is a plan to control the preschool children of the country," she said.

The House legislation, which is supported by the U.S. Catholic Conference, expands the earned-income tax credit for working families with minimal incomes and allows participation by religious day-care centers in the proposed federal programs. A Senate day care bill was approved in 1989.

"While no legislation is perfect, we believe the bills passed by both the House and Senate meet our basic criteria for good child-care legislation," Father Dennis M. Schnurr, USCC associate general secretary, said after the House vote in March.

Much of the House bill's approximately \$27-billion price tag would go for tax credits for working families earning up to \$20,270 annually, although recipients would not be required to spend the credit on child care.

"It is much more of a welfare bill than a tax-reduction bill. And we want a tax-reduction bill," Schlafly said. "I would pay for it out of the peace dividend."

The so-called "peace dividend" consists of anticipated savings from decreased defense spending as a result of reduced tensions between the United States and the Soviet bloc.

Schlafly also said the Eagle Forum does not support legislation demanding that

employers provide non-paid parental leave to employees for the birth or adoption of a child, or for a serious illness.

"We do not support federally mandated parental leave," she said. She said small businesses "are generally opposed to this," and "don't want that mandated at any price. They can't afford it."

Secretary of Labor Elizabeth H. Dole is committed to recommending a veto of "any mandated-leave bill," said Virginia Lamp Thomas, senior legislative officer for the Department of Labor. "The legislation is so arbitrary," she said.

The Labor Department's legislative analyst also discussed ways companies can promote a more "family-friendly" workplace.

"Companies can show greater flexibility."
Continued on page 22



File photo
Activist Phyllis Schlafly supports tax cuts for people with children rather than a House-backed day-care bill.

Covenant House budget cut \$10 million

NEW YORK (CNS) — Covenant House has cut its budget by \$10 million for the next fiscal year.

The action, taken April 25 by Covenant House's board of directors, reduces the budget from \$85 million to \$75 million, a cut of about 12 percent.

The new budget was a response to projected income and expenses through June 1991. Specific budget items that will be cut have not been determined.

Contribution levels to Covenant House have been threatened since allegations surfaced about sexual misconduct and financial impropriety by Franciscan Father Bruce Ritter, Covenant House founder.

The agency shelters more than 25,000 homeless and runaway youths each year. A Covenant House announcement said efforts will be made to protect the operations of its core programs.

The cuts were made "to prevent any major disruptions to Covenant House programs in the future," Covenant House chairman Ralph A. Pfeiffer Jr. said in a statement.

"This is a critical time for Covenant House's future," he said.



ARNDT FUNERAL HOME

1118 Long Pond Road (South of Maiden Lane)
(716) 225-6350

- Ronald John Arndt - Licensed Funeral Director since 1963
- Pre-planned funeral arrangements by appointment
- Lighted parking for over 100 cars
- Complete funeral arrangements at one convenient location
- Professional personal services make our families number 1
- Personal & Dignified Services For All Faiths
- General Price lists available
- Central Greece Area

FLOWERS FOR SYMPATHY

In your time of sadness we offer sympathy, understanding and guidance when you need it most.

We create all arrangements in accordance with your wishes. Feel confident to call on us for an In Home Family Consultation or visit one of our locations.

Joseph's Floral & Gifts


1100 Flynn Road (at Latta) 2410 Ridge Rd. W.
(716) 227-1474 (opposite Long Ridge Mall)
723-8070

FUNERAL DIRECTORS OF THE ROCHESTER DIOCESE


The funeral Directors listed herein offer pre-need and at-need services and counseling in accordance with the Catholic faith.

ROCHESTER

NULTON FUNERAL HOME
Penfield, New York 14526
(716) 381-3900




Malcolm M. Nulton
ASHTON-SMITH FUNERAL HOME
Rochester, New York 14609
(716) 482-6260



Set your mind at ease...
Make your Funeral Arrangements
with our Funeral Specialists

MATTLE FUNERAL HOME
Rochester, New York 14609
(716) 482-2440



James R. Gray
PAYNE-NULTON FUNERAL HOME
Macedon, New York 14502
(315) 986-7781

GATES

Crawford Funeral Home, Inc.
"Serving the Greater Rochester Area"
Located at 495 N. Winton Rd.
(Between Atlantic & Humboldt)
(716) 482-0400

DiPonzio Funeral Home, Inc.
(Across from St. Theodore's Church)
219 Spencerport Road
Rochester, N.Y. 14606
254-6672

IRONDEQUOIT

Paul W. Harris Funeral Home Inc.
Richard P. Harris Charles E. Davis
570 Kings Highway S.
(corner Titus)
(716) 544-2041

May Funeral Home
George L. May Jr., Raymond L. Welch
2793 Culver Rd.
Rochester, N.Y. 14622
(716) 467-7957

GRECEE

Arndt Funeral Home
1118 Long Pond Rd.
(south of Maiden Lane)
Parking for over 100 cars
Greene, N.Y. 14626
Ronald John Arndt
(716) 225-6350

Vay, Schleich and Meeson Funeral Home Inc.
"Greene's Largest and Most Complete Facilities"
2692 Dewey Avenue
1075 Long Pond Rd.
(716) 663-2100

MONUMENTS

McLaughlin Funeral Home Inc.
John J. McLaughlin
871 Culver Road
Rochester, N.Y. 14609
(716) 482-1847

Schauman-Sulewski Funeral Home Inc.
Edwin Sulewski
2100 St. Paul Street
Rochester, N.Y. 14621
(716) 342-3400

MONUMENTS

Michael R. Yackiw Funeral Home
1270 Norton Street
Rochester, N.Y. 14621
(716) 544-5000
If no answer 342-9300

MARRION MONUMENTS
476 State St. (corner of Jay)
Large Indoor Display
— FREE PARKING —
(716) 546-4450

HART MONUMENT CO.
2301 Dewey Avenue
Opposite Holy Sepulchre Cemetery
Since 1856

865-6746

REICHART MONUMENT CO.
348 Crestwood Blvd., Rochester, N.Y. 14624
(off Buffalo Rd. one block east of Howard)

235-4490