

and his staff led an effort in 1997 to move Arkansas away from an outcomes-based education philosophy. This, coupled with changes at the Arkansas Department of Education and on the State Board of Education, moved Arkansas public schools toward a more traditional system.

**18. Stronger DWI Legislation:** The Arkansas Faith and Ethics Council, Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, and Family Council worked with the governor's office to secure passage of legislation that lowers the legal limit for DWI from .10 to .08 percent blood alcohol content.

**19. Good Appointments to State Boards and Commissions:** The governor is responsible for appointing citizens to serve on over 300 state boards and commissions. These boards and commissions affect virtually every area of life in Arkansas. Family Council has been pleased to assist the governor's office by recommending qualified individuals to serve on them.

**20. Endorsement of the Arkansas Marriage Amendment:** When the effort to pass a state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage needed endorsement from Arkansas leaders, Governor Huckabee was the first one to publicly voice his support. Eventually a bi-partisan group of elected officials and ministers from across the state supported the measure.

**21. Office of Family Policy:** Governor Huckabee became the first governor in the history of Arkansas to establish an Office of Family Policy. Staffed by individuals who support traditional values, this office set a pro-family tone for all of state government. They enabled the governor to lead the way in passing pro-family legislation and establishing pro-family policies throughout state government. Early on in his administration, Governor Huckabee issued an order to all state agencies requiring them to evaluate their policies and programs to be certain that they were doing no harm to the family.

**22. A Great Working Relationship With Family Council:** One of the first things Mike Huckabee did when he became governor of Arkansas was to communicate to his entire cabinet and to the heads of all state agencies that he considered Family Council to be a friend and that they were to, as much as possible, work with me and my staff. This set the tone for a great working relationship that enabled us to work with just about everyone in state government.



## A True Conservative



The following is a list of conservative accomplishments directly outlined by Jerry Cox during Mike Huckabee's tenure as governor. Jerry is the president of the Arkansas Family Council.

**1. Banning Same-Sex Marriage:** Arkansas became one of the first states in the nation to pass a state law that defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman. Through the leadership of pro-family legislators and with the backing of the governor and his staff, Family Council took the lead in the successful passage of this law. Later, Family Council strengthened Arkansas' pro-marriage position by securing a state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

**2. Banning Partial-Birth Abortions:** Arkansas was one of the first states in the nation to ban partial-birth abortions. Family Council worked for the better part of an entire legislative session to secure passage of this pro-life legislation. Even though this law was later struck down in federal court, it solidified public opinion against this especially gruesome form of abortion.

**3. Reducing Unwed Births:** During the years when Bill Clinton was governor of Arkansas, Arkansas became known as a state where contraceptives were dispensed through health clinics located in public schools. Governor Huckabee established the Governor's Steering Committee on Abstinence Education and asked Family Council staff attorney, Martha Adcock, to chair the committee. Each year, this committee awards over \$1 million in state and federal funds to local groups that are teaching abstinence. State funding for contraceptives in schools has been discontinued. For the first time, Arkansas' unwed birth rate is declining.

**4. Passing Covenant Marriage Legislation:** Arkansas has one of the highest divorce rates in the nation. In response to this, Arkansas became the third state in the nation to pass a covenant marriage law. This new law enables couples to obtain a covenant marriage license

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that requires pre-marriage counseling and makes it more difficult for them to obtain a divorce. Governor Huckabee and his staff led the effort to pass this legislation and Family Council was pleased to assist them.

**5. Informed Consent Abortion Law:** Family Council and other pro-family organizations worked 10 years to secure passage of a law requiring doctors to inform women about the risks and alternatives to abortion and wait until the next day before performing the abortion. Governor Huckabee testified before legislative committees as far back as when he was lieutenant governor. We celebrated the culmination of a ten-year struggle when Governor Huckabee signed the bill into law in 2001.

**6. Supporting Home Schooling:** When Mike Huckabee became governor, Arkansas had one of the worst home school laws in the nation. A joint effort between the governor, Family Council, other home school leaders, and the Arkansas Department of Education, helped secure the passage of much better home school legislation. The number of Arkansas children enrolled in home schooling has tripled since Mike Huckabee became governor.

**7. Internet Safety in Public Schools and Libraries:** Family Council and conservative lawmakers initiated a successful effort to require public schools to install Internet filters on their computers that are connected to the Internet. In addition, Arkansas law requires all public libraries to implement a policy to ensure that people are not able to access inappropriate material on library computers. Governor Huckabee and his staff assisted with the passage of this legislation.

**8. Hosting Conferences on the Family:** Recognizing the importance of strong families, Governor Huckabee sponsored three conferences on the Family. Family Council partnered with the governor and his staff to bring nationally recognized experts to Arkansas to address ways to strengthen families.

**9. Passage of the Fetal Protection Act:** The tragic deaths of unborn children, some just days away from safe delivery, prompted the passage of a law that enables murder charges to be filed against anyone who assaults the mother of an unborn child causing the death of her baby. Governor Huckabee and his staff led the effort to pass this law and Family Council was pleased to assist them.

**10. Safe Haven Act to Protect Newborns:** The deaths of abandoned newborns motivated Family Council to address the issue through

the successful passage of legislation allowing mothers to anonymously drop off their newborn baby at a police station or hospital rather than abandoning the child to die. Governor Huckabee supported this legislation and signed it into law.

**11. Parental Consent for Abortions:** Since 1989, Arkansas doctors have been required to notify at least one parent before performing an abortion on a minor. In 2005, Family Council worked for the successful passage of a law requiring parental consent before a doctor can perform an abortion on a minor. Governor Huckabee and his staff assisted with the passage of this legislation.

**12. Covenant Marriage Celebration:** In 2005, Family Council assisted the Governor's office and FamilyLife in promoting a covenant marriage celebration in Little Rock. The event was attended by over 6,000 people, many of whom converted their marriage to a covenant marriage.

**13. Banning Physician-Assisted Suicide:** The legalization of physician-assisted suicide in Oregon prompted the passage of an Arkansas law banning the practice in our state. Family Council and our Physician's Resource Council division worked with supportive legislators and the governor's office to pass this law.

**14. Banning Human Cloning:** Arkansas became the second state in the nation to ban the cloning of human beings, including the cloning of human embryos. The Arkansas Physicians Resource Council division of Family Council worked with the governor's office to secure passage of this legislation.

**15. Affirming the Rights of the Terminally Ill:** Family Council worked with the governor and supportive legislators to enact legislation that empowers terminally ill patients to overrule doctor's orders that food and water be withheld as long as they are able to request it.

**16. Choose Life License Plate:** Passage of the Choose Life specialty license plate has generated thousands of dollars for adoption agencies and crisis pregnancy centers across the state of Arkansas. Family Council assisted Arkansas Right to Life with the passage of this legislation.

**17. Repealing Outcomes-Based Education:** When Mike Huckabee became governor, outcomes-based education was a primary emphasis with the Arkansas Department of Education. The governor