

P E N N S Y L V A N I A

H O M E S C H O O L E R S



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Sen. Santorum Keeps UN Treaty Promise

from Howard Richman

In answer to our questionnaire printed in this newsletter one year ago, Rick Santorum, then running for U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania, promised to oppose the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*. Since then he was elected Senator with strong homeschool support and has co-sponsored a Senate Resolution called the Helms-Lott Resolution which opposes the treaty. In a letter to Sue Means, he wrote:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. I appreciate hearing from you.

Like all international treaties, the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child treaty must be ratified by the Senate. Various legal issues have been raised concerning the potential effect of the U.N. Rights of the Child treaty on parental rights and state laws. A number of Pennsylvania residents have expressed concern that the enactment of this treaty could override certain state laws pertaining to adoption, education, child abuse, child custody, and other areas. I take these concerns very

seriously. Domestic laws and policies that affect the lives of every American should not be based on a United Nations treaty.

Because of my strong opposition to the United Nations Rights of the Child treaty, I have cosponsored a resolution that calls on President Clinton to not deliver this treaty to the Senate for approval. As your U.S. Senator, I will work to ensure that this fundamentally flawed treaty does not become law.

If I can discuss this issue further, or assist you with other matters, please feel free to contact me again.

You can send him a thank you at:

Senator Santorum
United States Senate
Washington 20510

In the meantime, Pennsylvania's other Senator, Arlen Specter continues to support the treaty.

For more on the UN Treaty see page 2

Excellence Day

Registration forms for the legislative breakfast at the homeschool excellence day scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, in Harrisburg are on page 30. Please mark your calendar to come to Harrisburg that day.

We are asking each support group to assign at least one person to come to the breakfast. Those coming to the breakfast should personally invite their state representatives and state senators to join them at the breakfast. Legislators rarely come unless they are personally invited by constituents who are coming to the breakfast.

Even if you don't come to the breakfast, you are welcome to come to the Capitol Rotunda afterward for the free Home-school Art, Social Studies, Science, and Creative Writing Fair and the 1 p.m. Press Conference. See Page 30 for details.

