



## Ministry Fact Sheet

*Defending the freedom of parents to train, educate and care for their children privately, without governmental interference. Working to detect, analyze, monitor, and intervene in all legislation affecting the legality of private home education in California since 1986*

### Legislative & Public Policy Coordinator For Private Christian Home Education in California

#### History

In 1986, the Christian Home Educators Association of California (CHEA); attorney Michael Smith, who is president of the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA); and others determined that California needed a full-time person to assure that state laws protect the God-given and constitutional rights of parents to direct the education and care of their children. CHEA, HSLDA, and others asked Roy Hanson to serve full time in this capacity in California. Roy established Family Protection Ministries (FPM) in 1986 to accomplish this mission and served as the full-time Executive Director. Roy (now retired) was joined by Jim Davis (now retired) in 1994 and Nathan Pierce in 2002. Today, FPM continues to address legislation that would impact homeschooling and families under the leadership of Nathan Pierce.

#### Legislative Work:

***Each year, new bills threatening private home education, private schools, and parental rights are introduced.***

**Damaging bills and proposals that FPM's strategic leadership has stopped or amended:**

- Criminalizing homeschooling
- Defining educational neglect as child abuse (which could have been used against homeschoolers)

- Statewide daytime curfews
- Mandatory government home visits of all infants and toddlers
- Mandatory psychiatric examinations for all citizens every three years
- Mandatory home inspections for all privately homeschooling families
- Loss of parental authority over curriculum choices

#### **Positive legislation passed with the critical efforts of FPM:**

- Excluding spankings in the definition of child abuse
- Reducing the absolute immunity of social workers in order to protect innocent parents from false accusations of child abuse
- Requiring CPS social workers performing an investigation of suspected child abuse or neglect to advise the individual of the allegations against him

#### **Duties:**

1. Acting as a central clearinghouse for information on California state legal/legislative status and action
2. Evaluating every bill introduced in the Legislature and tracking hundreds of state legislative proposals each year (They are

- hard to discover and are changed rapidly and often secretly.)
3. Advocacy in support, opposition, or modification of specific legislation
  4. Sending Legislative Alerts & Updates to supporters and homeschool leaders by email
  5. Writing position papers based on sound legal research and a Biblical worldview
  6. Building positive relationships with legislators and their staff, providing them with positive research-based information
  7. Liaison to CHEA, HSLDA, and other homeschool groups, private school organizations and parental rights groups
  8. Serving the Lord Jesus Christ and glorifying Him by serving you and others

#### **Coordination:**

Family Protection Ministries (FPM) is the only full-time organization working in the state capitol in behalf of private home educators and their parental rights. Family Protection Ministries provides critical coordination with other groups all across the state and nation to ensure a united approach to California legislation that would affect private home education and related parental rights. A premature or wrong approach in the legislative arena, by even a single well-meaning person or group, could make life very difficult for all of us.



**Nathan Pierce**  
Executive Director

## Background and Experience:

Starting in 2002, Nathan Pierce began working at Family Protection Ministries (FPM) and currently serves as the Director. He has over 20 years of experience doing advocacy work at the State Capitol. His role at FPM includes screening the hundreds of bills that pour into the California Legislature each year, closely watching for any that could harm our freedoms as parents, and alerting parents to contact their legislators. He works behind the scenes at the State Capitol, meeting with legislators and staff as well as testifying in committees to advocate on behalf of homeschoolers. Nathan values the importance of evaluating all things from an intentionally biblical worldview and works every day to maintain our freedom to do so.

Nathan was homeschooled through high school and received a B.A. in Political Studies from The Master's College. Nathan and his wife Betsy were married in 2004 and homeschool their 8 children. In 2018, Nathan received the Chris Klicka award for legislative work from HSLDA.

## Ministry Support:

FPM is totally dependent upon home educators' regular financial support for 100% of salary and expense needs. In order to continue to serve you by defending the educational and parental freedoms of home educators, FPM needs your financial support. This ministry has a critical need for additional monthly and periodic support for salary and ministry/office operating expenses.

## Your Challenge:

Our basic freedoms are under attack. We need to find families, homeschool groups, private school satellite programs, and churches that will commit to giving amounts such as \$15, \$50, \$100, or more each month toward the support of this one-of-a-kind ministry in California.

If you can help, your tax-deductible gift can be made online at [www.fpmca.org/donate](http://www.fpmca.org/donate). Checks should be made payable to Family Protection Ministries (or FPM) and sent directly

to our address on the next page. (Family Protection Ministries is the DBA of New Century Educators - a nonprofit organization.) We cannot do this tremendous job alone. This ministry is 100% faith-supported. Please be a part of our team to protect your children, grandchildren and future generations. Your help is needed now!

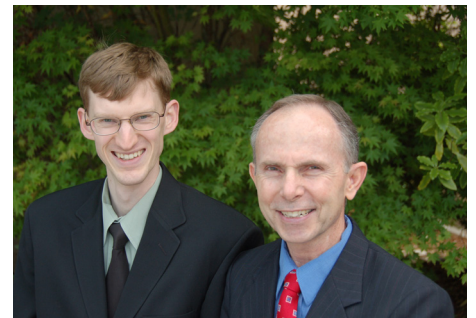
## Legislative Alerts & Updates

Our Email Alerts and Updates provide firsthand reports of changes in the law and legal/legislative threats to the rights of private home-educating parents in California. We send our communications on a complimentary basis to those who are in either one of the following two categories:

1. Homeschooling Leaders or Pastors. Leaders and pastors who want to receive our Email Alerts may go to our website and fill out the

Leadership Sign-Up Form at [www.fpmca.org/leaders](http://www.fpmca.org/leaders).

2. Supporters who contribute financially to FPM. Supporters who would like to receive our Email Alerts should send their name, email, and mailing address to us at [contact@fpmca.org](mailto:contact@fpmca.org).



**Nathan Pierce**  
Executive  
Director

**Roy Hanson**  
Founder Emeritus  
(now retired)