

Education Network of Christian Home-schoolers of New
Jersey

ENOCH of NJ

Legislative E-lert

Date: May 25, 2004

From: Mark August, Legislative Liaison, legislative_liaison@enochnj.org

Re: Trenton Homeschool Rally Report

The rally in Trenton yesterday was a resounding success. At least 1,600 homeschoolers answered the call to action and assembled in front of the State House. I personally greeted homeschoolers from Cape May to the New York border! I was especially blessed to see many fathers leading their families. If you were one of the 1,600: Thank you.

The task force had two goals in mind when organizing the rally: Get the press interested and give the legislature an idea of our numbers. We met both of those goals. Print and television reporters did cover the event – and there have been a few short reports so far. As well, the legislators were aware of our presence – some even approached us during the rally and asked to speak to the crowd!

Those of you who came had few if any complaints about parking or logistics. Our only real problem was a poor sound system provided by the State House – so that not all the members were able to hear the speeches. ENOCH will be posting the written version of those speeches on its website over the next few days – so you can at least read what you might have missed.

I saw a lot of creativity in the signs people carried. My favorite was “Home’s Cool” – say that three times aloud and you will see why I think it is so clever.

Thank you for all your prayer. Please continue to pray for the Assembly – especially the Education Committee. Pray for the bill sponsor, Loretta Weinberg. Pray for wisdom and unity within the task force – and among all homeschoolers in New Jersey especially during this time when our freedoms are being threatened. Pray that the press will do more than report on a rally – and they will begin to report on our reasons for opposing A1918.

The next possible date for a hearing is right around the corner, June 3rd. I believe that if A1918 is not heard on that day, it will not be up for a hearing again until the Fall because of the summer recess. Once the task force has had a chance to get reports about the seeds we've planted and any growing fruit – I will be writing again with observations and suggestions for further action.