



October 2024

*Strengthening, Growing, and Advocating for Christian Schools in Iowa!*

### IACS Impact

For nearly 50 years, IACS has lobbied successfully on behalf of Christ-centered schools in Iowa. In addition to protecting our schools from countless unfunded mandates and legislation that could affect our schools negatively, IACS has been instrumental in lobbying for:



**Independent Accreditation for Christian Schools:** this legislation passed in 2013 with its “sunset” provision removed in 2016! IACS also helped protect the option of “College Prep” or “Special Accreditation” for Iowa’s private high schools.

**Transportation:** protected transportation appropriations for parents who transport their students to school or to provide public schools resources to transport private school students.

**Educational Opportunities Act:** funds our School Tuition Organizations (STOs). We worked with coalition partners to dramatically expand this program over multiple years. This program has brought needed resources to many of our member schools through financial aid to eligible families.

**Education Savings Account (ESA) Legislation** that resulted in the Students First Act: signed into law in January 2023, creating universal Education Savings Accounts for all families regardless of income by 2025-26. IACS was an original organization responsible for the drafting of the first ESA bill in 2011.



As we head into the next legislative session in January 2025, please know that we rely heavily on our grassroots in order to accomplish meaningful legislation for our schools. Please be in the know and ready to

act! [Sign up](#) for legislative news and action alerts for legislation that affects Christian education. Share with your friends!

### Turning the Page



American Church Group, the Preferred Insurance Partner of IACS, is now [Lightwell Insurance Advisors!](#) This name change was designed to more clearly represent our mission of illuminating and supporting the needs of ministries and faith-centered organizations—like

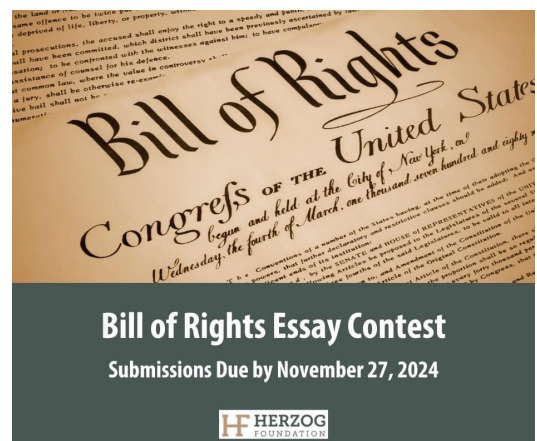
your Christian school. While our look has changed, our mission of serving local Christian ministries remains steadfast. We look forward to continuing to serve and partner with the Iowa Association of Christian Schools.



### Bill of Rights

Join the [Herzog Foundation](#) in celebrating over 230 years of the Bill of Rights by answering the essay prompt below: What made the Bill of Rights revolutionary and unique at the time of its ratification? How has it shaped the United States and its citizens over the years? Essay contestants must answer the prompt in 1,500 words or less (approximately three pages, single-spaced).

Please submit your essay no later than November 27, 2024 at [www.herzogfoundation.com/bill-of-rights-essay-contest](http://www.herzogfoundation.com/bill-of-rights-essay-contest).



## Sponsors and Partners

Thank you to the following organizations who financially support IACS. We are grateful for meaningful partnerships as we continue our mission to strengthen, grow, and advocate for Christian schools in Iowa.

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