

## LETTERS

**Why not take competitive bids?**

Re: "7 on council warn of racial divide — Southwest Airlines exec says deals aren't best for the airport," Wednesday news story.

The public knows that 90 percent of no-bid contracts are red-flag issues. If the no-bid contracts were such a good deal for the city, the obvious question is: What harm is it to compare them with other bids?

The harm is potentially only to Star Concessions and Hudson Retail, who reap the benefits at the public's expense and hide behind by their "bought and paid for" political cronies.

You would think that after the recent City Hall scandals and prosecutions, this type of insider trading would stop long enough to let the smoke clear.

At least the mayor sees through this sham scam.

*Bill Walker, Dallas*

**Love Field comes up short**

Re: Mayor urges input on no-bid contracts," by Gromer Jeffers Jr., Tuesday Notes.

I do not think there is ever a place for no-bid contracts where government contracts are concerned.

If people need support for Mayor Tom Leppert's position against no-bid contracts, they simply need to travel around the state's airports. They will find the concessions at Love Field terribly lacking by comparison. Competition is a good thing.

*James Clement, Dallas*

**Prayers for all involved**

Re: "Lancaster officer, 2 other men killed in shootings — Dallas chief's son among dead at Dallas County apartments," Monday news story.

The loss of these three lives is sorrowful and without reason. I, for one, have to pause in the chaos of the aftermath to say a sincere prayer for the departed ones. May God in heaven have mercy on each one. I pray also for the broken-hearted souls left behind to find a path to carry them through this life without the one that left on, of all days, Father's Day.

I also give prayer for the children that had to bear witness to such carnage. I know they will never forget that event.

Prayers should also be given for the loved ones who are left. Each will suffer his or her own loss.

*Myron L. Blackwell, Garland*

**Breaking new ground**

Re: "Same-sex marriage is about fairness — This issue is complex, but Laura Bush was right, says William McKenzie," Tuesday Viewpoints, and, "DART board set to adopt gender-identity policy — Nondiscrimination proposal would protect transgender employees," Tuesday news story.

Thank you, William McKenzie, for disclosing how your perspective on same-gender marriage has evolved. On the same day, an article appeared in *The Dallas Morning News* indicating that the DART board is poised to strike a proposed non-discrimination policy that would prohibit employment decisions based on gender identity.

Christian churches face similar questions as they attempt to discern the applicability of words spoken or written many centuries ago. I, for one, look forward to a day when gay and lesbian people will be evaluated on ability and character rather than gender orientation, whether they are driving a bus or speaking from a pulpit.

*The Rev. Charles Hubbard, pastor, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Garland*

**'Anchor babies' being used ...**

Re: "Opening the College Option — Improving Latino college rate is wise investment," Monday Editorials.

"Anchor babies" — whom the illegal im-

migrants use to appeal to the proper, moral concern of a Christian nation for the health, education and welfare of little ones — are now being called our opportunity for "investment."

This process must be stopped, or at least we must emphasize in the education of all, including the adults with babies who should be sent back, our unique American heritage of love for constitutional law and order, that endures, rather than being overthrown with every El Presidente since Santa Anna.

*Rebecca Kobylecky, Greenville*

**... but DREAM Act should pass**

Kudos to *The Dallas Morning News* for urging Texas legislators to invest in scholarships for first-generation college students.

An important corollary to funding higher education for first-generation students is passage of bipartisan federal legislation known as the DREAM Act, which would provide a pathway to legalization to young students who were brought to the U.S. years ago as undocumented immigrant children.

The only students who would benefit from the DREAM Act are high achievers who have learned English, pledge love and allegiance to this nation, have successfully graduated from a U.S. high school, have been accepted into a two- or four-year university or served in the U.S. armed forces, and have a clean record with the law. After two or more years of college or military duty, these young people would become eligible for permanent resident status.

This critical measure would ensure that the brightest young minds in the U.S. are able to continue their education and contribute to our economy and military. The DREAM Act allows high-achieving young immigrants to stay in the country they call home.

*Barbara Lee, president, National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Dallas Section*

**Joe Barton has chutzpah**

Re: "Is EPA friend or foe? Obama administration over-reachers, threatening thousands of jobs and ignoring our ability to regulate, says Joe Barton," Monday Viewpoints.

I am surprised to see a Barton column on the Viewpoints page regarding the evil Obama administration and the oil and gas industry.

Rather than publish a column by Barton, why not have the public relations arm of the oil and gas industry draft the article? It would be one step closer to the source and not further expose the incestuous relationship between our noble legislators and industry. Joe Barton, you truly have chutzpah.

*Jim Wells, Irving*

**Spending-cut sleight of hand**

Re: "Senate revokes Medicare cut — Vote is too late to stop processing of 21% slash to doctors for June," Saturday news story.

The recent restoration of Medicare cuts is but the first example of the sleight-of-hand accounting used to "score" the stimulus bill. These cuts were offsets to the new spending that were never intended to be made.

The assumptions on other budget cuts, because they affect significant needs of the citizens, will never be made because who wants to be known as the senator or congressman who cut aid to the elderly or to children? A lot of the reduction assumptions in the stimulus bill were bogus, and if the same logic were used in a case for a business, the presenters would be thrown out of the meeting. It's time for accountability and responsible congressional leadership.

Watch for more of this in the future.

*Frank Usher, Plano*



**IS IT TIME** for same-sex marriages? The history and theology of marriage are being debated on Texas Faith. [dallasnews.com/texasfaith](http://dallasnews.com/texasfaith)