# **Defend Religious Liberty**

### Breaching the Seal of the Confessional

Original Bill: HB286 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Rep. Raychel Proudie (D)

Description: Allows the reporting of a privileged communication regarding child abuse and neglect that is made to

a minister or clergyperson.

**Position:** Oppose

MCC Statement: In an effort to address the scourge of child sexual abuse by members of the Church in the past, the

state should not infringe upon the First Amendment right of priests to administer the sacrament of confession and to maintain the confidentiality of things disclosed there as required by Canon law.

01/17/25

Last Action: 01/09/2025 H - Read Second Time

## Church Space/Gun Regulations

Original Bill: SB77 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Sen. Adam Schnelting (R)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to the carrying of firearms on public transit systems.

**Position:** Oppose in part

MCC Statement: Provision of bill eliminates prohibition of carrying weapon(s) into church and eliminates requirement

that concealed carry permit holder obtain consent of minister to carry a concealed firearm, requiring church to post signage. As part of principle of religious liberty, churches should continue to have the right to regulate their sacred spaces and decide whether or not to allow weapons (concealed or

otherwise). 03/21/25

Last Action: 03/12/2025 S - Placed on Informal Calendar

### **Defining Sex as Male and Female**

Original Bill: SB76 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Sen. Adam Schnelting (R)

**Description:** Modifies provision relating to prohibited discriminatory practices.

**Position:** Support

MCC Statement: No one should face unjust discrimination, including discrimination for same-sex attraction or gender

dysphoria; however, interpreting sex discrimination to include sexual orientation and gender identity would have potentially negative implications for religious liberty, privacy rights, and rights of conscience. This bill makes clear that the definition of sex does not include sexual orientation and

gender identity. 02/19/25

Last Action: 02/13/2025 S - Voted Do Pass - Senate-Families, Seniors, and Health

# Immunity for Disclosure of Abuse by Employees

Original Bill: HB753 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Rep. Don Mayhew (R)

Description: Provides immunity from civil liability for disclosures by a charitable organization of allegations of

sexual misconduct.

**Position:** Support

MCC Statement: Non-profits should be immune from civil liability when disclosing to other non-profits incidents of abuse

previously reported to the state, as required by law, about which the non-profit is a mandatory reporter.

01/17/25

Last Action: 02/06/2025 H - Referred to committee - House-General Laws

Original Bill: SB706 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Sen. Brad Hudson (R)

Description: Provides liability protections for charitable organizations making good faith disclosures of sexual

abuse.

**Position:** Support

MCC Statement: Non-profits should be immune from civil liability when disclosing to other non-profits incidents of abuse

previously reported to the state, as required by law, about which the non-profit is a mandatory reporter.

01/17/25

Last Action: 03/24/2025 S - Referred to committee - Senate-Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence

Religious Liberty Protections/Campus Organizations

Original Bill: HB875 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Rep. Darin Chappell (R)

Description: Prohibits public institutions of higher learning from discriminating against religious, political, or

ideological associations.

**Position:** Support

MCC Statement: College campus organizations should not be discriminated against and denied access to campus

resources based on their religious beliefs or practices. 01/17/25

Last Action: 03/13/2025 S - Referred to committee - Senate-Local Government, Elections, and Pensions

Original Bill: SB160 Amended Bill: SS SB 160 Sponsor: Sen. Brad Hudson (R)

Description: Prohibits public institutions of higher learning from discriminating against religious, political, or

ideological associations.

**Position:** Support

MCC Statement: College campus organizations should not be discriminated against and denied access to campus

resources based on their religious beliefs or practices. 01/17/25

Last Action: 03/31/2025 H - Public hearing completed - House-Emerging Issues

Religious Liberty/Infringements

Original Bill: HB1460 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Rep. Wick Thomas (D)

Description: Prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status.

**Position:** Oppose

MCC Statement: No one should face unjust discrimination, including discrimination for same-sex attraction or gender

dysphoria; however, the proposed legislation has potential negative implications for religious liberty, privacy rights, and rights of conscience. This bill would penalize those who believe we are created male and female, violate the privacy and safety rights of women and girls, and the conscience rights of

doctors and other medical professionals. 02/19/25

Last Action: 02/26/2025 H - Read Second Time

Original Bill: SB608 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Sen. Patty Lewis (D)

**Description:** Prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

**Position:** Oppose

MCC Statement: No one should face unjust discrimination, including discrimination for same-sex attraction or gender

dysphoria; however, the proposed legislation has potential negative implications for religious liberty, privacy rights, and rights of conscience. This bill would penalize those who believe we are created male and female, violate the privacy and safety rights of women and girls, and the conscience rights of

doctors and other medical professionals. 02/19/25

Last Action: 03/13/2025 S - Referred to committee - Senate-Families, Seniors and Health

Original Bill: SB732 Amended Bill: Sponsor: Sen. Stephen Webber (D)

**Description:** Modifies provisions relating to unlawful discriminatory practices.

**Position:** Oppose

MCC Statement: No one should face unjust discrimination, including discrimination for same-sex attraction or gender

dysphoria; however, the proposed legislation has potential negative implications for religious liberty, privacy rights, and rights of conscience. This bill would penalize those who believe we are created male and female, violate the privacy and safety rights of women and girls, and the conscience rights of

doctors and other medical professionals. 02/19/25

Last Action: 03/24/2025 S - Referred to committee - Senate-General Laws