



Religious Liberty in the Marketplace Overview

Federal and State Level Legislative Initiatives/Authors, Sponsors

A. The First Amendment Defense Act – written by Rep. Raul Labrador (R-ID), this legislation (H.R. 2802 – 114th Congress) would protect churches, charities and private schools from being punished by the government for opposing same sex marriage. It is being compared to the 1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA). B. The Welfare Provider Inclusion Act of 2015 – Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA) is leading an effort to end government discrimination against faith-based adoption agencies and foster care centers due to religiously held beliefs – H.R. 1299 – 114th Congress. C. The No Unequal Rights Referendum in Houston, TX – the Texas Supreme Court ruled that enforcement of the Houston City LGBT ordinance must be stopped and either repealed or placed on the ballot for a vote in the November, 2015 election.