

[INSERT DATE]

The Honorable [YOUR SENATOR'S NAME]
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. [LAST NAME]:

[INSERT PERSONALIZED INTRODUCTION]

I am writing to add my voice to the many voices expressing grave concerns over the potential legalization of discrimination that is misnamed, “the Equality Act.” As a Christian, I harbor no ill-will towards anyone, but I cannot stand idly by as the moral teachings of the Bible are made illegal by legislation. Who could imagine that the 1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), a truly bi-partisan protection of everyone’s 1st amendment, religious liberty rights, would be attacked by such partisan legislation within our lifetime? The Equality Act specifically denies appeals to RFRA with regard to LGBTQ issues. As a result, in my opinion, the Equality Act constitutes one of the gravest threats to religious liberty in American history.

With the House passage of the Act, and President Biden’s promise to sign it, the Senate **must** stand for the 1st Amendment religious freedoms of our citizens, our churches, faith-based businesses, and schools by voting against this unprecedented attack on people of faith. If signed into law, faith-based organizations and individuals will face discrimination in unprecedented ways:

- Faith-based hospitals and insurers could be forced to provide gender transition treatments and surgery against their conscience.
- Grade schools, middle schools, and high schools will be encouraged or mandated to instruct very young children that they can choose to be a boy or a girl and that their anatomical sexual organs are irrelevant to their sexual identity. Children could also seek to change their gender without parental knowledge or consent.
- The Act would dismantle sex-specific facilities, sports, and other spaces. As a result, biological females would be forced to compete in sports with biological males and for athletic scholarships. Girls would be terribly vulnerable in bathrooms and showers, places where there should be privacy and protection.
- The Equality Act could become a tool used by the government to deny or threaten accreditation to religious colleges and universities for non-compliance to these new gender mores.
- Faith-based schools and businesses could be forced to violate their beliefs regarding homosexual activity and LGBTQ behavior or face fines, censure, or worse.

To illustrate how tenuous is this moment in time, see the recent federal court ruling on January 19th, 2021 defending a doctor’s conscience rights against coercion to perform transgender interventions which violated their sincerely held religious beliefs. The court cited RFRA in its ruling. If the Equality Act becomes law, such appeals would be prohibited. The passage of this Bill will also certainly result in all schools (public, private and faith-based), as well as public spaces like parks and arenas, needing monies to retrofit what we now know as “single-sex

spaces”. The financial burden, should this pass, will most certainly result in significant additional costs to taxpayers. Will the Congress pass legislation to “bail” out the public schools? It seems any “relief” bill would be costly and need to include those private and faith-based schools as well since, after all, H.R.5/S.393 seeks to normalize gender equality by criminal and civil penalties. This Bill appears to be a blatant effort to diminish religions freedom in our nation, which our forefathers fought to preserve, and to force people of faith to conform to gender ideology under threat of law. While this Bill provides equality for a select group, at the same time it denies equality to the masses.

I strongly urge you to vote against this grave threat to religious freedom and to urge your fellow senators to do the same. Those who stand against the “Equality Act” are not in any way “forcing” their morality on anyone. Quite the contrary, we are people merely standing for the freedom, the right, and the responsibility to have a biblical, moral view of these conscience issues for the sake of our culture and country even if that contradicts the libertine spirit of the age. As a Christian I believe Jesus loves all people, died for all people, and came to save all people. God didn’t just love some, but the whole world, and He treats all people with equality, showing no partiality while respecting individuality. This is the Biblical view upon which I stand and which I publicly confess.

Know that I will be praying for you as you respond to this danger on behalf of all (Floridians/Georgians) and our nation. If I may support your decision in other ways, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

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