

As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session

2015-2016

H. B. No. 296

Representative Young

**Cosponsors: Representatives Becker, Boose, Brinkman, Buchy, Burkley, Green,
Hill, Hood, Roegner, Schaffer, Thompson**

A BILL

To enact section 4112.024 of the Revised Code to 1
provide that a business is not required to 2
participate in a ceremony creating a union 3
between two persons of the same sex if such 4
participation violates the business's right of 5
conscience or freedom of religion. 6

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 4112.024 of the Revised Code be 7
enacted to read as follows: 8

Sec. 4112.024. (A) As used in this section: 9

(1) "Business" means a sole proprietorship, partnership, 10
corporation, or any other business entity or the owner or 11
employees of the sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, 12
or business entity. 13

(2) "Ceremony" includes any activities relating to 14
participation in creating a marriage union between two persons 15
of the same sex. 16

(3) "Participation" includes the provision of goods and 17

services. 18

(B) No business shall be required to participate in a 19
ceremony creating a marriage union between two persons of the 20
same sex if participation in the ceremony violates the 21
business's right of conscience or freedom of religion. No 22
business that exercises rights under this section shall be 23
subject to civil or criminal liability. 24

(C) The exercise of rights under this section is not an 25
act of discrimination. 26