



FAITH
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4215 Indian Ripple Road, Beavercreek, OH 45440

2-8-17

To the distinguished committee members,

Thank you for taking the time to consider HB 36 (Pastor's Protection Act). I am here today as a proponent of this bill for the following reasons:

-As a citizen, I desire the people of our community in the Dayton area to be able to enjoy the freedom of speech and practice of religion without fear of legal retribution. It is important for individuals to have the freedom to speak and to respond to what is spoken. Whether that response is agreement or dismissal, it is imperative that both are allowed.

-As a pastor, I desire the assurance of knowing we can hold to our belief and practice without fear of criminal or legal proceedings. This bill is not viewed by myself as a weapon but as a shield. It isn't a means to hurt our community but rather, to allow them opportunity to discover the message of our holy Scriptures.

-As a father, I desire to insulate my children's generation for freedom of worship. Whether my children or any other child chooses to do so will be up to them but I want them to be able to do so.

Thank you for taking time out of your schedules to receive my concerns.

Respectfully,

Paul Norton

Senior Pastor

Faith Baptist Church

