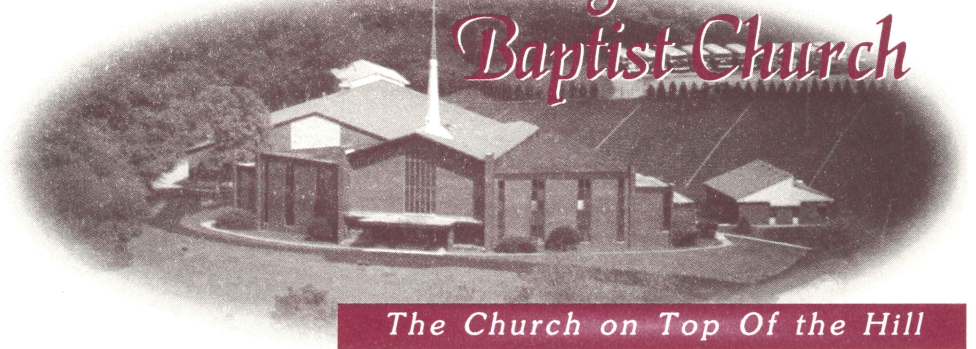


# Moraine Heights Baptist Church

5661 MUNGER ROAD  
DAYTON, OHIO 45459  
(937)434-6658

DR. TERRELL HUDSON  
Pastor  
DR. TRAVIS HUDSON  
Co-Pastor



## MINISTRIES:

- ◆ A dynamic Sunday School for all ages
- ◆ Programs ministering to the entire family
- ◆ Extensive Bus Ministry
- ◆ Worldwide Mission Outreach
- ◆ Local outreach to area Resthomes and Hospitals
- ◆ Tape Ministry
- ◆ Premillennial
- ◆ Fundamental
- ◆ Missionary
- ◆ Evangelistic
- ◆ Baptist

January 23, 2017

Dear Representative Ginter,

I am happy for the opportunity to speak in favor of HB 286, the Pastor Protection Act.

It has been my privilege to solemnize marriages in our great state since December 29, 1982. Having a part in all those weddings has been a joyous part of my service in the ministry.

After over 34 years of working with all those couples I understand so clearly how a pastor has to have the freedom to choose to officiate or chose to abstain from officiating any wedding. I've often said "no couple needs my permission to get married but they do need my permission to involve me in it." If that right which we have held so dearly for so long would ever be taken away then the religious liberty of all citizens would be jeopardized. How could we speak of any minister's freedom of worship if he or she, irregardless of their particular faith or creed, would be required to perform a ceremony that they sincerely believed to violate the tenants of their faith?

I believe this bill will strengthen the freedom we have held in the past for those now serving and for generations to come without doing any harm to others.

Before I close let me thank you and your colleagues for your service on the House Community and Family Advancement Committee. Please rest assured of my prayers for each of you as you serve our great state.

Sincerely,

Pastor Terrell Hudson

TH:db