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## Lighthouse Baptist Church

2929 Carpenter Road

Ashtabula, OH 44004

February 14, 2017

TO: The Honorable Timothy Ginter

77 S. High Street Columbus, OH 43215

FROM: Pastor John Jones

RE: HB 36

Dear Sir,

Thank you for all that you do for those in our state and please know that you are often in our prayers though we seldom have the opportunity to physically be in your presence. I want you to understand clearly that as a member of the clergy (for a long time now), I am encouraged by what I see in this bill, and I support it completely. It is difficult to stand for sincerely held biblically based ideals when those with a different viewpoint "legislate" our freedoms away. Where is equity in that? I, nor others in similar positions, should be forced to violate our beliefs, and also in reality, the accepted historical teachings of the Bible since our country was founded.

This piece of legislation harms no one. What it does is just give those with religious convictions about this matter respect, and a seat at the table in our great state, that is equal – not above – those who have a differing position (I am not forcing my position upon them).

I am sorry that I am not able to be there physically this week, but I know that it is important.

Sincerely,

Pastor John Jones