

I am writing as a concerned citizen in strong opposition to House Concurrent Resolution HCR 3020, which urges North Dakota to acknowledge the Kingship of Jesus Christ. This resolution is unconstitutional and directly contradicts the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, which guarantees freedom of religion and prohibits the government from endorsing any specific faith.

The First Amendment clearly states:

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."*

By urging the state of North Dakota to acknowledge the Kingship of Jesus Christ, HCR 3020 effectively endorses a specific religious belief. This is a direct violation of the Establishment Clause, which ensures that all Americans—Christian or not—have the right to practice or not practice any religion without government interference.

This resolution is not just unconstitutional—it is divisive and exclusionary. North Dakota is home to a diverse population of people with different religious beliefs, including Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, atheists, agnostics, and many others. Our government should represent and serve all North Dakotans, not just those who adhere to one particular faith tradition.

Furthermore, HCR 3020 undermines the very principles of religious freedom that have long been a cornerstone of American democracy. True religious liberty means that the government remains neutral in matters of faith, allowing individuals to worship as they choose—or to not worship at all—without state endorsement or pressure.

I urge this committee to reject HCR 3020 and uphold the constitutional rights of all North Dakotans. Our government must not favor one religion over another or impose religious beliefs through legislative action. To do so would be not only unconstitutional but also un-American.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I strongly encourage you to vote NO on HCR 3020.