

Written Testimony Opposing HB 1145

I oppose the placement of the Ten Commandments in classrooms of public schools for the following reasons:

1. It violates the separation of church and state and the peoples' right to worship and believe as each chooses.
2. It is intrusive on and exclusive of people of other religious traditions or no religious affiliation. We live in a diverse, multi-cultural and multi-faith society. Let us embrace the beauty of our diversity, not force one belief upon another.
3. As an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ, currently serving a congregation in Jamestown, I believe that it is the responsibility and joy of the members of the congregation and the parents to teach Christian education to our children. This is not the duty of the state nor public education teachers.

Signed:

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