



Focus on Religious Freedom

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“Right to Worship Act” Proposed by Both Parties in Congress

“While Americans presume that the Constitution guarantees their rights, in practice our rights survive or disappear based on how firmly we defend them.” - Archbishop Chaput

From increased interruption of religious services to outright threatening behavior and violence against worshippers, the Freedom of Religion asserted in the First Amendment is being grievously violated. Further denial of this freedom results when the threats and violence have a chilling effect and intimidate Americans from “risking” attendance at their church’s services.

A bi-partisan proposed “Right to Worship Act” will deter “conduct that unreasonably hinders or deters a person from entering a house of worship, or that threatens or intimidates a person, in a manner that prevents participation at a scheduled religious service.” The bill would create a 100 foot safe zone that is protest-free around churches during scheduled religious services as well as for one hour before and after the service.

Those violating this act would be subject to fines and lawsuits.

Text of the proposed act is here: <https://tinyurl.com/3tac5wcv>

Letter supporting the bill from the USCCB: <https://tinyurl.com/2va446x8>

To preserve Freedom of Religion we must:

- learn its origins and importance,
- love it as an awesome gift from God
- live it in visible witness to our faith.