

HRO, Threat to Liberty

To reassure a skeptical electorate, sponsors of the “new” HRO pledged to craft legislation that would uphold the Constitutionally-guaranteed rights of People of Faith, citizens who wish only to practice their religions unmolested by government.

Although all governmental units are bound by the US Constitution to defend (not annul) its enumerated rights – including the “*free exercise of . . . religion*” and the “*freedom of speech*” – the new HRO would curb those guarantees and punish their practice.

The Religious Exemption Hoax

The HRO’s “*religious exemption*” conflicts with existing nondiscrimination ordinances, through a too-narrow concept of “church”. Only churches and “*affiliated*” ministries get “protection”.

- Not exempt are religion-based organizations that are independent of “churches” –ministries and charities which provide crucial social services to Jacksonville’s poor, homeless, disadvantaged, orphaned, and destitute, including pregnancy centers, and foster care, marriage and inner city ministries.
- For these religious entities, the law would control human resources practices. And, it would allow men claiming womanhood access to intimate facilities intended for women – showers and dressing, locker and bath rooms, as well as lodging in women’s dormitories and abuse shelters. The resultant mingling of sexes will greatly increase legal liability.
- In some cases males will be allowed to partake in girls’ sleeping arrangements and to enter girls’ dressing, locker and shower areas, to expose themselves and to view girls in all stages of undress.

Rational concerns for modesty, privacy, and safety will be re-categorized as “discrimination” under the ever-evolving concept of “*gender identity*.”

- The law would redefine “male” and “female” for nurseries and preschools, even religious schools offering Florida’s [Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program](#).
- Further, all gender “*expression*” is protected, the protected person being the sole arbiter of what “*expression*” is acceptable.

Such “*expression*” will be on display within public and religious venues, undermining the moral and religious training and values of children. Thus, the HRO thwarts the principal obligation of parents: To protect their children.

Abolishing Constitutional Guarantees

The proposed code provides NO protection for devout individuals who run businesses or non-profits. A Christian business owner in the wedding industry would be forced to participate in [same-sex weddings](#), when his faith considers such collaboration sinful – his Constitutional “*free exercise of . . . religion*” is thus prohibited by governmental mandate.

This is a [too-frequent event](#); see tinyURL.com/LGBTtyranny.

The HRO will nullify Constitutional “*Freedom of Speech*” by punishing some speech as “discrimination”. Any unwelcome language uttered by employees, visitors or tenants may be considered actionable “discrimination”, if deemed offensive solely by the official “victim”. Even using the [wrong gender pronoun](#) may [provoke ruinous legal action](#).

Government will become protector of feelings for countless “gender identities” – 14 genders according to [Williams Institute](#), the foremost [LGBT thinktank](#), plus the ultimate unknowable category “*gender non-conforming*.”

The legal consequences are uncontrollable, since standards for “sexual orientation”, “gender identity”, “expression” and “discrimination” are subjective and indefinable.

Tax increases will be needed to prosecute “offenders”, to meet demands for LGBT liaisons in the mayor’s and sheriff’s offices, and to establish anti-bullying regulations and “LGBT sensitivity” courses for employers and administrators.

LGBT Power Grab

This law, for which sponsors provide no objective documentation of discrimination, is part of a nationwide LGBT movement to chain the U.S. in dissolute LGBT favoritism laws, elevating LGBT’s to a special rights status over other citizens.

The LGBT goal is widespread recognition as normal. But, statistics-savvy LGBT leaders know that the “normal distribution curve” can never grant normalcy to LGBT lifestyles.

So, they seek an alternative: Employ the blunt force of government to fabricate the illusion of normalcy and crush all opposition.

To gain these ends their contemptible government allies eagerly nullify the Constitution, endanger children, and swell the taxpayer burden.

