



March 7, 2012

Via Email ([lcs.ga@state.co.us](mailto:lcs.ga@state.co.us))  
and U.S. Mail

Mike Mauer, Director  
Colorado Legislative Council Staff  
Room 029  
State Capitol Building  
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Proposed Initiative

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a typewritten draft of the proposed Colorado constitutional amendment entitled the "Colorado Religious Freedom Amendment." Also enclosed is a copy of the proposed amendment with Ballot Title and Text.

The designated representatives of the proponents of the Colorado Religious Freedom Amendment are:

Tom Minnery  
Senior Vice President  
Focus on the Family  
8655 Explorer Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80920  
(719) 531-3334  
Email: [tom.minnery@fotf.org](mailto:tom.minnery@fotf.org)

Greenwood Corporate Plaza, Building No. 3  
7951 E. Maplewood Avenue, Suite 100  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111  
480-388-8163  
[mjnorton@telladf.org](mailto:mjnorton@telladf.org)

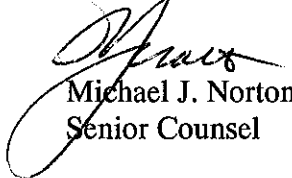
March 7, 2012  
Page 2

**ALLIANCE DEFENSE FUND**

Michael J. Norton  
7951 E. Maplewood Avenue, Suite 100  
Greenwood Village, CO 80111  
480-388-8163  
Email: [mjnorton@telladf.org](mailto:mjnorton@telladf.org)

We look forward to hearing from you on the date for a public review and comment meeting with Legislative Council Staff.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Norton  
Senior Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Tom Minnery (with enclosures)

**Colorado Religious Freedom Amendment**

**BALLOT TITLE:**

AN AMENDMENT TO THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION EXPRESSING THE PUBLIC POLICY OF THE STATE OF COLORADO THAT GOVERNMENT MAY NOT BURDEN A PERSON'S OR RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION'S FREEDOM OF RELIGION

**TEXT:**

Section 1: Article II of the Colorado constitution is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

**Section 32. A Person's or Religious Organization's Freedom of Religion**

- (1) The right to act or refuse to act in a manner motivated by a sincerely held religious belief may not be burdened unless the government proves it has a compelling governmental interest in infringing the specific act or refusal to act and has used the least restrictive means to further that interest.
- (2) A burden includes indirect burdens such as withholding of one or more benefits, assessing one or more penalties, exclusion from one or more government programs, and/or exclusion from one or more government facility.
- (3) This section shall take effect upon proclamation of the vote by the governor.

## **Colorado Religious Freedom Amendment**

**Government may not burden a person's or religious organization's Freedom of Religion. The right to act or refuse to act in a manner motivated by a sincerely held religious belief may not be burdened unless the government proves it has a compelling governmental interest in infringing the specific act or refusal to act and has used the least restrictive means to further that interest. A burden includes indirect burdens such as withholding one or more benefits, assessing or more penalties, an exclusion from one or more government programs and/or exclusion from one or more government facility.**