

February 29, 2024

House Republicans,

When you return from recess, you will be in session for just two days before parts of the federal government begin shutting down. As the top-line number of \$1.7 trillion is now set, the real appropriations battle begins over so-called appropriations "riders."

As the leaders of organizations dedicated to protecting religious liberty and other First Amendment liberties for all Americans, we encourage you to include the Roy "Marriage Amendment" in the upcoming appropriations bills. The language would provide much needed protection to organizations and individuals who hold traditional beliefs on marriage from discrimination by the federal government.

The Roy Marriage Amendment is particularly necessary in light of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress passing the so-called "Respect for Marriage Act" during its lame duck session. The Roy Marriage Amendment would rebalance the scales of justice and ensure that individuals and organizations are protected in exercising their First Amendment rights.

Additionally, the language was included in almost every appropriations bill passed out of committee and in every appropriations bill that passed the House.

This provision is needed now more than ever, for no one should ever fear government punishment for holding to traditional marriage as the unique blessing that it is for all. We strongly encourage you to once again include the Roy "Marriage Amendment" in upcoming appropriations bills.

Thank you,

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