



WILLIAM JESSUP
UNIVERSITY

June 21, 2018

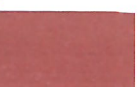
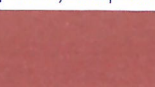
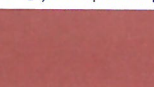
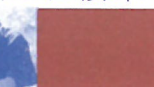
The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson
California State Senate
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol, Room 2187
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: OPPOSE AB 2119 (Gloria)

Dear Senator Jackson:

On behalf of William Jessup University, we wish to state to you and the committee our respectful and strong opposition to AB 2119. As a faith-based organization, we are deeply concerned with the spiritual, ethical, and moral ideology that forms the basis of this proposed legislation. It seeks to establish by law a state-sanctioned viewpoint that gender identity and sexuality are arbitrary, fluid, and subject only to personal desire. In fact, if this bill is enacted, it would make it illegal for those who are foster care providers to help minors and non-minors who want to change their same-sex desire or gender identity to their biological gender. Though the author's intention is to protect individuals from harm and to affirm their gender selection, this bill actually prevents them from exploring all points of view by marginalizing, if not entirely excluding, a large segment of caregivers simply based on a different perspective. Nobody wins when exploration of ideas and different viewpoints are constrained or eliminated.

Our collective task is to build a pluralistic society that allows for freedom of expression (all the First Amendment protections) and the right of privacy/equal protection under the laws (all Fourteenth Amendment protections), and this bill would silence the deeply held religious convictions of many in our culture such as churches, counselors, teachers and others about human sexuality and the family. There will be no opportunity for those caregivers to provide help and support to individuals who are confused or who seek to change their gender orientation.





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We also believe that this bill will subject California, again, to legal challenges and costly legal battles since AB 2119 is clearly an unconstitutional abridgment of First Amendment rights. This is not the pathway forward and we request that you vote against AB 2119.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Jackson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. John Jackson
President, William Jessup University

Cc: Senator John M. W. Moorlach (Vice Chair)
Senator Joel Anderson
Senator Robert M. Hertzberg
Senator Bill Monning
Senator Henry Stern
Senator Bob Wieckowski

