

Endorsement by Richland County, OH Pastors for U.S. Presidency in the 2016 Ohio Primary

The President of the United States of America, including other governmental positions of authority are who the Bible calls: servants of GOD,¹ and it is incumbent for the voting public to fulfill their duty as citizens to select capable men from all the people, men who fear GOD, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain, and appoint *them* as officials.²

Because of the awesome responsibility of the office of the Presidency, we believe a person that has a proven track record of protecting faith, family, and freedom, who acts on behalf of the principles of the U.S. Constitution, who has integrity, and who can be accountable to the public should lead this office. **Because of his proven track record, it is our belief that Senator Ted Cruz is the best candidate to be the next President of the United States.**

The following is a brief synopsis of **documented actions protecting religious freedoms by Senator Ted Cruz** that we as twenty-four pastors in Richland County, Ohio believe set him apart from the other candidates:

- Introduced measures to protect faith organizations in Washington DC from being forced to provide abortion services to their employees³
- Galvanized national support for Houston pastors who had been subpoenaed by the City of Houston and forced to turn in their sermons for their opposition to legislation.⁴
- Stood with Kentucky County Clerk Kim Davis in defense of her right to live in accordance with her faith.⁵
- Defended Hobby Lobby and Conestoga Wood Specialties against Obamacare's contraception mandate.⁶
- Sponsored legislation to grant Meriam Ibrahim and her children permanent legal status in the United States so they could swiftly return home after being imprisoned for her Christian faith.⁷
- Successfully defended the constitutionality of the Texas Ten Commandments monument, before the U.S. Supreme Court.⁸
- Attended prayer rallies for persecuted Christians and introduced a resolution that states that President Obama should not meet with Iran until they release American hostages, including Pastor Saeed Abedini.⁹
- Helped keep cross monument standing at the Mojave Desert Veterans Memorial.¹⁰
- Led the way to preserve the words "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance at the U.S. Supreme Court.¹¹
- Successfully defended the words "under God" in the Texas Pledge of Allegiance and Texas schools' moment of silence law in federal district court.¹²
- Supported students' right to display banners containing religious content at school sporting events.¹³

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Sincerely,

Twenty-four (24) Pastors in Richland County, Ohio

**Reverend El Akuchie
Reverend Eric Byrom
Reverend Ron Puff
Reverend Robert Kurtz
Reverend Ferlie Yates
Reverend Doug Tackett
Reverend Bruce Copley
Reverend Mark Bailey
Reverend David Davenport
Reverend James Spencer
Reverend Les Vnasdale
Reverend George Lewis**

**Reverend Don Wilson
Reverend Michael Workman
Reverend John Freeman
Reverend Mark Barth
Reverend James King
Reverend Harrison Gapter
Reverend David Green
Reverend James Hill
Reverend Keith Carlisle
Reverend David Guild
Reverend James Streib
Reverend Larry Hulver**

References

1 Romans 13:6 New International Version (NIV)

2 Exodus 18:21 New International Version (NIV)

3 <http://www.cardinalnewmansociety.org/CatholicEducationDaily/DetailsPage/tabid/102/ArticleID/4097/%E2%80%98Right-Thing-to-Do%E2%80%99-Sens-Cruz-LanMakekford--Last-Ditch-Effort-to-Protect-D-C-Religious-Schools.aspx>

4 <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/oct/16/ted-cruz-houston-pastors-rally-as-sermon-subpoena-/?page=all>

5 <http://www.newsmax.com/US/Kim-Davis-Kentucky-Clerk/2015/09/03/id/673489/>

6 <http://dailysignal.com/2014/07/16/senate-votes-bill-reverse-hobby-lobby-decision/>

7 <http://www.lifenews.com/2014/06/12/ted-cruz-and-pro-life-groups-lead-white-house-rally-to-save-meriam-ibrahim/>

8 <http://www.texastribune.org/2012/07/23/cruz-supreme-court-work-heart-campaign/>

9 <http://www.christianpost.com/news/ted-cruz-shares-stage-with-saeed-abedinis-wife-at-religious-liberty-rally-says-husband-wont-deny-jesus-for-freedom-143588/>

10 <http://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052748703298004574455440071429518>

11 <http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2016/01/ted-cruz-supreme-court-conservative-213497?o=2>

12 <http://www.danbranch.com/2013/09/03/10th-anniversary-of-the-texas-moment-of-silence-law-remembered/>

13 <http://blog.libertyinstitute.org/2015/12/us-senators-john-cornyn-and-ted-cruz.html>

Special thanks for the site: <https://www.tedcruz.org/issues/religious-liberty/> in providing list accomplishments.