
Subject: Indianapolis Urban League Responds to Religious Freedom Restoration Act



**Indianapolis
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Media Statement from Indianapolis Urban League President and CEO Tony Mason
Regarding the Religious Freedom Restoration Act**

"The Indianapolis Urban League's legacy has been and continues to be rooted in the advocacy for social and economic equality for all regardless of race, gender, religion, or sexual orientation. Since our inception, the Indianapolis Urban League has provided access to programs and services dedicated to improving the quality of life for all residents of Indianapolis and its surrounding communities. In doing so, we have worked closely with city and state government, civic leaders and organizations, and various community partners to help make Indianapolis a great place to live, work and play."

"We are very disappointed in the recent passage and signing of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. As it is currently written, it does not align with our organization's long-standing commitment to diversity and inclusion, or our city and state's efforts in recent decades to attract and retain talent, economic development opportunities and to position Indianapolis as a destination for tourism and major sporting events. We strongly encourage the Indiana General Assembly to immediately take the necessary steps to address local and national concerns related to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act and to reaffirm that Indiana is a state that is welcoming and values diversity and inclusion for all. With a little extra consideration, appreciation and respect for all people, religious freedom or tolerance can be achieved without sacrificing our city and state's image, past accomplishments and opportunities for future growth."

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