



League of United Latin American Citizens

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
Margaret Moran

March 31, 2015

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Brent A. Wilkes

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Rosa Rosales
Immediate Past President
Maggie Rivera
Treasurer

Roman Rodriguez

Youth President

Frank Urteaga

VP for Elderly

Elsie Valdes

VP for Women

Ana Valenzuela Estrada

VP for Youth

Manuel Rendon

VP for Young Adults

David Hernandez

VP for Farwest

Darryl Morin

VP for Midwest

Ralina Cardona

VP for Northeast

Juan Carlos Lizardi

VP for Southeast

Baldomero Garza

VP for Southwest

The Honorable David Long

President Pro Temp

Indiana Senate

200 W. Washington St.

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Senator Long:

On behalf of the League of United Latin American Citizens, the nation's oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization, I urge you to repeal the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA). In addition to a complete repeal, our organization supports the passage of a nondiscrimination legislation that protects the civil rights of individuals based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Founded in 1929, our organization has fought discriminatory laws against Latinos and other minorities for decades. We are greatly concerned about the negative impact that the Religious Freedom Restoration Act would have on countless of Hoosiers, particularly our sisters and brothers of the LGBT community. As you know Indiana has seen a tremendous backlash after the enactment of this law and Governor Pence has requested a review of the bill and language incorporated to clarify the intent. It is our hope that you will use this opportunity to repeal this bill as written due to the fact that current language can be used to justify discrimination against LGBT individuals.

In addition to a complete repeal of the RFRA, the state legislature should also pass legislation that protects all Hoosiers from discrimination. Passing language that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, immigration status, religion, color, disability, language, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, ancestry, age, United States military service veteran status, etc. seems like the best way to ensure that the state of Indiana is on record expressing opposition to discrimination against all Hoosiers. Without a complete repeal of the bill, according to some sources, the consequences of RFRA would mean that:

- Businesses and corporations refusing service to members of the LGBT community.
- Bakery shops reception halls, photo studios, could close their doors to same-sex couples planning their wedding.
- Employees may bring litigation against employers who enforce internal nondiscrimination policies, including employer provided benefits for same-sex spouses (health insurance, retirement) and LGBT non-discrimination policies.
- The claim to religious belief can lead to protected discrimination against other minority groups as well.

STATE DIRECTORS

David Hernandez

Arizona

Terry Treviño-Richard

Arkansas

Dave Rodriguez

California

Phyllis Duran

Colorado

Thomas Higgins

District of Columbia

Lydia Medrano

Florida

Brandie Bedard

Georgia

Jose Javier Lopez

Illinois

Wanda Gordils

Indiana

Joseph Enriquez Henry

Iowa

Michelle Cuevas-

Stubblefield

Kansas

Yvette Butler, MD

Maryland

Hanoi Reyes

Massachusetts

Priscilla Rocha, Ed.D.

Nevada

James Fukuda

New Jersey

Enrique Kiki Vigil

New Mexico

Eduardo LaGuerre

New York

Lourdes Ribera

Ohio

Abdiel A. Martinez

Puerto Rico

Elia Mendoza

Texas

Salvador Lazalde

Utah

Bob Garcia

Virginia

Arturo Martinez, Ph.D.

Wisconsin

Discrimination of any kind is not acceptable. Please consider the implications of the RFRA, the national backlash, the legacy of politicians who support discrimination, and the harm that will come upon the LGBT community. I urge you to stand with all Hoosiers and the rest of the nation by exercising your ability to repeal RFRA, and instead pass nondiscrimination legislation to protect all Hoosiers in the state of Indiana.

If you should have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Luis Torres, LULAC National Director of Policy, at latorres@lulac.org or (202) 833-6130.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Margaret Moran". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Margaret Moran
LULAC National President