

PROFESSORS OF MILLSAPS COLLEGE
OPPOSE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE BILL 1523,

the so-called "Protecting Freedom of Conscience from Government Discrimination Act".

The sponsors and supporters of HB 1523 seek to allow, protect, and advance discrimination against persons in the state of Mississippi.

- We are appalled that HB 1523 encourages government officials and other citizens to break anti-discrimination laws of the United States.
- We are alarmed about the oppression and endangerment of many persons that would result from adoption of this law.
- We are dismayed because this bill would strengthen Mississippi's reputation as a close-minded, prejudiced state, which would, in turn, hurt our businesses, schools, and institutions.
- We deplore the use of religion as a reason for discriminating against people, here and around the world.
- We deeply disagree with the many leaders of Mississippi who approved and voted for this discrimination; if the bill is adopted, we look forward to the day when it is struck down by fair-minded courts.
- We sincerely hope that this horrendous legislation never becomes law and that Mississippi legislators no longer pass bills that violate human rights.
- We call on and hope for other persons, businesses, organizations, and institutions to publicly express their support for civil-rights and to oppose this uncivil legislation.

Signed,

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