



## NEW YORK FAITH & FREEDOM COALITION

### PRESS RELEASE

#### IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE:** October 23, 2015 **TIME:** 12:00pm

**SUBJECT:** Governor Cuomo's Executive Order -GENDA

**FROM:** Rev. Bill Banuchi, Executive Director

**CONTACT:** Phone: (845) 561-9499 Email: [bill@nyfaithandfreedom.com](mailto:bill@nyfaithandfreedom.com)

Last night Governor Andrew Cuomo announced an Executive Order aimed at circumventing the legislative process of the State Legislature. Call him King Cuomo if you like, but as New Yorkers dedicated to a government "of the people" we must not let this stand for several reasons:

First and most important is that it sets a dangerous precedent making it acceptable for the executive to bypass the legislature, in effect, negating the will of "we the people." Taken to its logical conclusion a governor would then be able to rule as he wishes using the instrument of the Executive Order. That is totalitarianism—tyranny! It must not stand. Or as *Montesquieu* put it, "*There can be no liberty where the legislative and executive powers are united in the same person.*"

Executive Orders are intended to be used to direct government agencies and officials in their execution of "duly established" laws or policies. They were never intended to counter the will of the people as expressed by their elected representatives in the State Legislature. This is a blatant, "in-your-face" violation of the separation of powers. It must not stand, or we embark on a journey toward complete totalitarianism. After all, why bother having a state legislature if the Governor can simply write the laws all by himself? It just doesn't make sense in a democratic republic.

The State legislature must pass a law stating that any Executive Order issued by the Governor that is contrary to the expressed will of the people as represented in the Legislature is null and void.

Secondly, the GENDA bill (Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act) will cause more sexual immorality, perversion and violence, particularly among our children. It is rightly called the "Bathroom Bill" because it will give permission to sexual predators to legally violate the unsuspecting child in restrooms across New York, because bathrooms will not be gender specific. It will promote and encourage licentiousness as individuals find sanction for immoral sexual expression.

Finally, this bill promotes faith over science. If one believes he or she is a particular gender he can live according to his faith though his anatomy may say something different. Tomorrow he may want to express himself/herself/itself as something different. This is fantasy and has no place in an intelligent moral society.

Yes, all people must be treated with dignity and respect, as well as equality under the law, but we must never enshrine legal principles that encourage immorality and social chaos. James Wilson, among many other founding fathers taught us that civil law must be consistent with divine law. Liberty is not the freedom to do what one wants, but rather it is the freedom to do what one ought as understood by our Judeo-Christian tradition. Whatever we need to do to reverse this tyrannical overreach, we must do it.