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PACIFIC JUSTICE INSTITUTE

Legal Insider

New Steps to Save Christian Colleges in California

July 6, 2016

Dear Friends,

I need to update you on the latest developments in the battle to stop SB 1146, the bill attempting to prohibit Christian colleges and universities from living out their faith. I also need to share with you an important new strategy that will take our efforts to the next level.

First, an update: last Thursday, three members of our legal team went to the State Capitol to voice opposition to SB 1146. Despite another strong turnout from citizens in opposition, the Assembly Judiciary Committee voted the bill through on a largely party-line vote—though some members did not even vote!

The Legislature is now on break for approximately the next month. When they return, SB 1146 has another hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. We need to take advantage of the crucial month ahead to double our efforts and impact to stop this breathtaking attempt to seize the reins of our religious institutions.

Your phone calls have been terrific! But it's clear we need to adapt our strategy based on what we've been hearing. One of the things we've

heard from Capitol insiders is that Legislators are paying the most attention to calls from their own district, and much less to callers from other parts of the state or nation.

We've also realized that phone calls are not enough. We need citizens—and especially those who will be the most impacted or have influence in their communities—to request personal meetings with their Assembly members while they are back in their home districts. These politicians need to meet families who have benefited from Christian education, and families who will be directly harmed if they approve this bill. It's quite possible they will refuse to meet with you. But we absolutely must make this effort. If you are able to schedule a meeting with your Assembly member, we can help with pointers.

Here, in short order, are the steps we need to take:

1. If you don't know who represents you in the Assembly, find out at: <http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov>
2. If you already know who represents you in the Assembly but need their phone numbers, the full Assembly membership is listed at <http://assembly.ca.gov/assemblymembers>. During July, we recommend calling your local, district office numbers.
3. Politely voice your opposition to SB 1146, let them know you live in their district, ask what your Assembly member is doing to stop this outrageous attack on religious institutions, and request a meeting with them to explain the impacts of this bill.
4. Forward this e-mail to your family and friends.
5. Express your opposition to SB 1146 via social media to raise awareness.

Many Californians still have no idea that the Legislature is carrying out the most brazen attack we have ever seen to force religious institutions to adhere to government propaganda. Many legislators are appallingly unfamiliar with the colleges they are seeking to coerce. During this month of July, let's change that!

This is a watershed moment in California, and it deserves our utmost energy and resource. If the State can get its hands on our religious colleges and universities, you can be assured that our Christian K-12 schools will be next.

Running the Race,

Brad Dacus, Esq.

Founder and President, Pacific Justice Institute