Nonprofit Nonpartisanship | Additional Resources

Statements of support, community letters, news releases, congressional and IRS resources, and news resources regarding protecting the Johnson Amendment and nonprofit nonpartisanship.

Statements of Support

- Alliance for Nevada Nonprofits
- Association of Fundraising Professionals
- Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty
- BoardSource
- California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits)
- California Council of Churches and California Association of Nonprofits
- Council on Foundations
- CT Community Nonprofit Alliance
- Florida Nonprofit Alliance
- The Foraker Group (Alaska)
- Forefront (Illinois)
- Forum of Regional Associations of Grantmakers
- Idaho Nonprofit Center
Community Letters


**News Releases and Statements**


**Congressional Resources**

- Conference Report on the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, House of Representatives
• Joint Explanatory Statement of the Committee on Conference, House and Senate Conferees
• Nonprofit Analysis of the Final Tax Bill Proposal, National Council of Nonprofits
• Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, National Council of Nonprofits.
• BJC responds to removal of language that would have undermined the protections of the Johnson Amendment, Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Dec. 15, 2017.
• Recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee on Comprehensive Tax Reform, National Council of Nonprofits, July 13, 2017.
• Protect Nonprofit Nonpartisanship: Oppose Efforts to Repeal or Weaken the Johnson Amendment, Issue Summary, National Council of Nonprofits, Apr. 11, 2017.

IRS Resources

Editorials

- Don't weaken the ban on politics in the pulpit, *Los Angeles Times*, Los Angeles, CA, Mar. 6, 2018.
- Don't eliminate ban on politically active churches, *Des Moines Register*, Des Moines, IA, Feb. 10, 2017.
- **Repealing the Johnson Amendment is no path to religious freedom**, *Frederick News-Post*, Frederick County, MD, Feb. 8, 2017.
- **Losing the Johnson Amendment Would Destroy the Unique Political Role of Nonprofits**, *Nonprofit Quarterly*, Boston, MA, Feb. 6, 2017.
- **Churches aren’t being muzzled by the IRS**, *Los Angeles Times*, Los Angeles, CA, Aug. 14, 2016.

**Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor**

- **Tax-deductible partisanship can cause rifts**, *St. Louis Business Journal*, Deborah Dubin, CEO and President of Gateway Center for Giving, and Diane Drollinger, President and CEO of Network for Strong Communities, Sept. 12, 2018.
- **Connect your own dots**, *Southeast Missourian*, Jeff Long, President of Habitat for Humanity affiliate, Sept. 8, 2018.
Johnson Amendment is good for churches, St. Louis Dispatch, Rev. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church in Columbia, Sept. 4, 2018.

Johnson Amendment vital to nonprofit trust, The Olympian, Trudy Soucoup, CEO of Homes First, Aug. 7, 2018.


All tax-exempt organizations must remain nonpartisan, The Columbian, Rhona Sen Hoss, Board Member, Washington Nonprofits, July 15, 2018.

Stop Congress from injecting partisan campaign politics into America's houses of worship, The Hill, Margaret Magee, President and Board Chair of the Franciscan Action Network and Rev. Jimmie R. Hawkins, Director of the Presbyterian Office of Public Witness, July 13, 2018.

To defend against 'dark money,' keep the Johnson Amendment, The Spokesman-Review, Laura Pierce, Executive Director, Washington Nonprofits, June 23, 2018.

How to save the Johnson Amendment and keep nonprofits nonpartisan, NYN Media, Emily Cote, Vice President of Communications and Engagement of the New York Council of Nonprofits, May 23, 2018.

Don't politicize the work of churches, charities, Greenville News, Greenville, SC, Katy Pugh, Executive Director of the Greenville Partnership for Philanthropy, Mar. 20, 2018.

Setting the record straight on charities and political speech, The Hill, Washington, DC, Tim Delaney, President and CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits, Mar. 14, 2018.

Politics From The Pulpit? Just Say No, Civil Beat, Honolulu, HI, Lisa Maruyama, President and CEO of the Hawai‘i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations, Mar. 14, 2018.

Don't mix politics into nonprofits, The Cardova Times, Cardova, AK, Kristin Carpenter, Executive Director of the Copper River Watershed Project, Mar. 14, 2018.

• Keeping Our Sacred Spaces Sacred, Ethics Daily, Nashville, TN, Lauren McDuffe, Associate Pastor of First Baptist Church of Morehead, Kentucky and Baptist Joint Committee Fellow, Mar. 5, 2018.
• Don't politicize from the pulpit, The Community Word, Peoria, IL, Bill Knight, Mar. 1, 2018,
• Nonprofits should educate voters, not endorse candidates, The Journal Record, Oklahoma City, OK, Marnie Taylor, President and CEO of the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, Feb. 28, 2018.
• Trump vowed to destroy the Johnson Amendment. Thankfully, he has failed., Washington Post, Washington, DC, David Saperstein, Director Emeritus of the Religious Action Center for Reform Judaism, and Amanda Tyler, Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Feb. 8, 2018,
• The 'purple places' where red, blue worship together, Commercial Appeal, Memphis, TN, Dr. Stephen Cook, Senior Pastor of Second Baptist Church, Dec. 13, 2017.
• This tax reform provision would deal a blow to nonprofits, Crain's Chicago Business, Chicago, IL, Dawn Melchiorre, Chief Program and Policy Officer of Forefront Illinois, Dec. 13, 2017.
• Nonprofits should serve communities, not candidates, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, Bozeman, MT, Liz Moore, Executive Director of the Montana Nonprofit Association, Dec. 8, 2017.
• Some people will anything to avoid talking politics, Chicago Tribune, Chicago, IL, Ted Slowik, Dec. 8, 2017.
• Pastors don't want to endorse candidates, Lexington Herald Leader, Rev. D. Anthony Everette, Pastor at the Wesley United Methodist Church, Dec. 8, 2017.
- Two faiths, but one mind on keeping politics out of the pews, *The Hill*, Washington, DC, Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary of the General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church, and Rabbi David Fox Sandmel, P.h.D., Director of Interreligious Engagement at the Anti-Defamation League, Dec. 7, 2017.
- CT nonprofits fear GOP tax overhaul will reduce charitable giving, *The CT Mirror*, Hartford, CT, Ana Radelat, Nov. 28, 2017.
Here's 3 reasons why you should oppose the current tax reform bills, Philly Voice, Philadelphia, PA, Anne Gingerich, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations, Nov. 22, 2017.

For NJ Charities, Tax-Reform Bills Offer Little To Be Thankful For, NJSpotlight, Montclair, NJ, Linda M. Czipo, President and CEO of the Center for Non-Profits, Nov. 21, 2017.


Why churches shouldn't endorse political candidates, Houston Chronicle, Houston, TX, The Very Reverend Barkley Thompson, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, The Reverend Tommy Williams, Senior Pastor of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, and The Reverend Doctor Steve Wells, Pastor of South Main Baptist Church, Nov. 17, 2017.


There's a wolf in sheep's clothing hiding in the GOP tax bill, The Hill, Washington, DC, Tim Delaney, President and CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits and Amanda Tyler, Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Nov. 8, 2017.

The Good (?), the Bad, and the God-awful: Nonprofit Bottom Lines on the House Tax Bill, Nonprofit Quarterly, Boston, MA, David Thompson, Vice President of Public Policy for the National Council of Nonprofits, Nov. 6, 2017.


Why 4,000 church leaders want to keep politics out of the pulpit, Des Moines Register, Des Moines, IA, Rev. Alejandro Alfaro-Santiz, Co-Pastor at Trinity Las Americas United Methodist Church, Sept. 21, 2017.

• **Keep it separate: Pulpit no place for partisanship**, *Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette*, Fayetteville and Springdale, AK, Rev. Stephen Copley, Chair of Faith Voices Arkansas and a United Methodist Pastor, Sept. 8, 2017.

• **Congress, defend the common law and common sense of nonpartisanship**, *The Hill*, Washington, DC, Karen Gano, Board President of the National Association of State Charity Officials, and Tim Delaney, President and CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits, Sept. 7, 2017.


• **Protect the Johnson Amendment**, *Houston Chronicle*, Houston, TX, Scott Moore, Director of the Center for Missional Excellence at the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church and a Conroe Independent School District Trustee, Aug. 23, 2017.


• **A repeal of the Johnson Amendment would sadly bring politics into houses of worship**, *Dallas News*, Dallas, TX, Rev. George Mason, Senior Pastor at Wilshire Baptist Church, and Rabii David Stern, Senior Rabbi of Temple Emanu-El, Aug. 15, 2017.

• **Houses of worship shouldn't get into political game**, *The Norman Transcript*, Norman, OK, Dr. Bruce Prescott, Aug. 14, 2017.


• **Why Congress shouldn't repeal or weaken the Johnson Amendment**, *MinnPost*, Minneapolis, MN, Kristi Rendahl, D.P.A, soon to be assistant professor and director of the Nonprofit Leadership Program at Minnesota State University, Aug. 2, 2017.

These adorable puppies need your help to keep the nonprofit sector nonpartisan, Nonprofit = Awesomely Fun!, Seattle, WA, Vu Le, Executive Director of Rainier Valley Corps, July 24, 2017.

Measure easing regulation on pulpit politics is unpopular, Raleigh News & Observer, Raleigh, NC, providing a collection of five letters to the editor, July 22, 2017.

Jesus Calls Us to Be Political, Not Partisan - Keep the Johnson Amendment, Red Letter Christians, St. Davids, PA, Jeania Ree Moore, Director of Civil and Human Rights at the General Board of Church and Society of The United Methodist Church, and Amanda Tyler, Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, July 14, 2017.

Charitable nonprofits, Deseret News, Salt Lake City, UT, Kate Rubalcava, CEO of the Utah Nonprofits Association, July 11, 2017.

Let me tell you whom to vote for, Index-Journal, Greenwood, SC, Tony Hopkins, Senior Pastor of Greenwood First Baptist Church, July 8, 2017.

Don't Tread on Us: Keep Toxic Partisanship Away from Nonprofit Missions, Nonprofit Quarterly, Boston, MA, Tim Delaney, President and CEO of the National Council of Nonprofits, July 7, 2017.

Keep nonprofits nonpartisan, The Bismarck Tribune, Bismarck, ND, Dana Schaar Jahner, Executive Director of the North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations, and Kevin Dvorak, President and CEO of the North Dakota Community Foundation, May 28, 2017.

Nonprofits should be free of partisan politics, Concord Monitor, Concord, NH, Kathleen Reardon, CEO of the N.H. Center for Nonprofits, May 21, 2017.

How those who claim to protect the church are actually undermining it, Baptist News Global, Winston-Salem NC, Corey Fields, senior pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Newark, DE, May 10, 2017.


A Message to Congress - Keep Charities and Foundations Nonpartisan, NJSpotlight, Montclair, NJ, Linda M. Czipo, President and CEO of the Center for Non-Profits, and Nina Stack, President of the Council of New Jersey

- **Let’s keep nonprofit sector neutral**, The Journal Record, Oklahoma City, OK, Marnie Taylor, President and CEO of the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, Mar. 1, 2017.
- **Repealing the Johnson Amendment could lead to reduced donations to churches and charities**, The News & Observer, Raleigh, NC, Richard M. Clerkin, PhD, Executive Director of the Institute for Nonprofits at N.C. State University, Feb. 24, 2017.
- **Don't Weaken the Existing Ban on Electioneering by 501(c)(3) Organizations**, The Dodge Blog, Morristown, NJ, Linda Czipo, President and CEO, Center for Non-Profits, Feb. 16, 2017.
- **Keep Dark Money Out of Charity**, U.S. News & World Report, Washington, DC, Roger Colinvaux, professor of law at The Catholic University of America and
former counsel to the Congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, Feb. 10, 2017.

- **Don't listen to the complainers on the religious right. We need the Johnson Amendment**, Los Angeles Times, Los Angeles, CA, Randall Balmer, chairman of the religion department at Dartmouth College, Feb. 2, 2017.

**Additional Resources**

- **Many Churchgoers Don't Know If Their Pastor Is a Republican or Democrat**, Christianity Today, Jan. 15, 2020.
- **President Trump's shifting claim that 'we got rid' of the Johnson Amendment**, Washington Post, Washington, DC, May 9, 2019.
• **Fight to preserve Johnson Amendment continues amid new repeal efforts**, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Sept. 14, 2018.
• **As High Holidays approach -- and midterm elections loom - should rabbis get political?**, KYW 1060, Sept. 6, 2018.
• **Congress could declaw restrictions on politicking from the pulpit -- over the objections of many churches**, The Conversation, July 30, 2018.
• **This Week in God, 7.21.18**, MSNBC, July 21, 2018.
• **House votes to prevent IRS from punishing churches engaging in politics**, Politico, July 19, 2018.
• **IRS Dumps Schedule B For Associations, Other NPOs**, The NonProfit Times, July 17, 2018.
• **Another Effort to Get Rid of the 'Johnson Amendment' Fails**, NPR, Mar. 23, 2018.
• **Spending Bill Excludes Johnson Amendment Repeal**, The NonProfit Times, Mar. 22, 2018.
- In small win for Democrats, the final tax bill will not include a provision allowing churches to endorse political candidates, *Washington Post*, Dec. 14, 2017.
- Bad news for nonprofits: Will people still give or as much if they can't get a tax deduction for their charitable giving?, *Washington Post*, Dec. 14, 2017.


• Tax bill could make 'dark money' political contributions tax deductible, *CNN*, Dec. 8, 2017.


• Charities and nonprofits must remain non-partisan, *Cincinnati Enquirer*, Dec. 8, 2017.


• An Open Letter to the Hundreds of Millions of Americans Who Have Worked for, Volunteered for, Donated to, or Benefited from the Work of a Charitable Nonprofit: i.e., every living person in the USA, Tim Delaney, *Nonprofit Quarterly*, Nov. 29, 2017.

The GOP's effort to let churches endorse candidates is deeply unpopular, *ThinkProgress*, Nov. 28, 2017.

Poll: *Allowing Non-Profits to Endorse Political Candidates*, University of Maryland School of Public Policy, Nov. 2017.


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*How the tax package could blur the separation of church and politics*, *The Conversation*, Nov. 22, 2017.

*GOP tax bill will allow nonprofits to endorse political candidates*, *WITF*, Nov. 22, 2017.


*Keep nonprofits out of politics, Jewish groups urge Congress*, *Jewish Telegraphic Agency*, Nov. 9, 2017.


*BJC says funding bill will expose houses of worship to political pressure*, Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Washington, DC, July 13, 2017.


*Some nonprofits worry politics could creep into their work*, *WITF*, Harrisburg, PA, April 3, 2017.

*Nearly 100 religious groups tell Congress: Keep the 'Johnson Amendment'*', Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Washington, DC, Apr. 4, 2017.

