

Exhibit O

Whitney Lipscomb

From: Whitney Lipscomb
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 7:08 PM
To: 'kfiedorick@adflegal.org'
Subject: Governor Bryant Signing Statement for HB 152
Attachments: HB 1523 Signing Statement.docx; Senate 2687 Bill Signing Statement.pdf

Kellie,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me and agreeing to help provide some language for Governor Bryant's Signing Statement. Attached is the beginning of the Signing Statement for HB 1523 along with a Signing Statement he has done in the past. Also you will find information related to HB 1523 [here](#). Thanks again for your help.

Best,
Whitney

Whitney H. Lipscomb
Counsel
Office of Governor Phil Bryant
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, MS 39205
(601) 576-2026
whitney.lipscomb@governor.ms.gov

April 1, 2015

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE:

GOVERNOR'S SIGNING STATEMENT FOR HOUSE BILL 1523

I am signing House Bill 1523, "AN ACT TO CREATE THE "PROTECTING FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE FROM GOVERNMENT DISCRIMINATION ACT"; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS REGARDING A SINCERELY HELD RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR MORAL CONVICTION FOR PERSONS, RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND PRIVATE ASSOCIATIONS; TO DEFINE A DISCRIMINATORY ACTION FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT; TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON MAY ASSERT A VIOLATION OF THIS ACT AS A CLAIM AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN REMEDIES; TO REQUIRE A PERSON BRINGING A CLAIM UNDER THIS ACT TO DO SO NOT LATER THAN TWO YEARS AFTER THE DISCRIMINATORY ACTION WAS TAKEN; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES."

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



March 18, 2013

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE:

GOVERNOR'S SIGNING STATEMENT FOR SENATE BILL 2687

I am signing Senate Bill 2687, "AN ACT TO RESERVE TO THE LEGISLATURE ANY REGULATION OF CONSUMER INCENTIVE ITEMS AND NUTRITION LABELING FOR FOOD THAT IS A MENU ITEM IN RESTAURANTS, FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS AND VENDING MACHINES; TO SPECIFY THAT THE ACT WOULD NOT AFFECT THE FEDERAL REGULATION OF NUTRITION LABELING UNDER EXISTING FEDERAL LAW; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES."

This bill reserves to the Legislature the authority to regulate the sale and marketing of food on a statewide basis. It protects consumers' freedom of choice and avoids a patchwork of inconsistent regulations on retailers that operate across jurisdictional lines. Further, this bill will not affect laudable efforts by local schools to ensure that food offered in schools is healthy and nutritious. Recent studies show that obesity among our Mississippi elementary students has fallen 13.3% between 2005 and 2011. Efforts like these are essential to the continued improvement of the health of Mississippi's schoolchildren.

It simply is not the role of the government to micro-regulate citizens' dietary decisions. The responsibility for one's personal health depends on individual choices about a proper diet and appropriate exercise. Leading a healthy lifestyle is important to me, and it is a personal priority of mine to educate Mississippians on the importance of making good health decisions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Bryant".

Phil Bryant
Governor

Whitney Lipscomb

From: Kellie Fiedorek <KFiedorek@adflegal.org>
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2016 9:35 AM
To: Whitney Lipscomb
Subject: RE: Governor Bryant Signing Statement for HB 152
Attachments: HB 1523 Signing Statement 2.docx; HB 1523 Signing Statement 1.docx

Hi Whitney,

I've sending two different drafts. We looked through a number of Gov. Bryant's signing statements and tried to use his voice. Please feel free to pull from either one that is most helpful to you and your boss. Some statements might be better for his press release. Let me know how else we can be helpful, and if you need anything else today. We're here to serve.

Best,
Kellie

From: Whitney Lipscomb [mailto:Whitney.Lipscomb@governor.ms.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2016 6:38 AM
To: Kellie Fiedorek
Subject: RE: Governor Bryant Signing Statement for HB 152

Great, thanks.

From: Kellie Fiedorek [mailto:KFiedorek@adflegal.org]
Sent: Friday, April 01, 2016 8:33 AM
To: Whitney Lipscomb <Whitney.Lipscomb@governor.ms.gov>
Subject: Re: Governor Bryant Signing Statement for HB 152

Hi Whitney,
Just wanted to let you know I received this and will have a draft to you shortly.
Best,
Kellie



Kellie Fiedorek
Legal Counsel
202-393-8690 (Office)
202-888-7633 (Direct Dial)
202-347-3622 (Fax)
KFiedorek@ADFlegal.org
ADFlegal.org

On Mar 31, 2016, at 5:30 PM, Whitney Lipscomb <Whitney.Lipscomb@governor.ms.gov> wrote:

Kellie,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me and agreeing to help provide some language for Governor Bryant's Signing Statement. Attached is the beginning of the Signing Statement for HB 1523 along with a Signing Statement he has done in the past. Also you will find information related to HB 1523 [here](#). Thanks again for your help.

Best,
Whitney

Whitney H. Lipscomb
Counsel
Office of Governor Phil Bryant
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, MS 39205
(601) 576-2026
whitney.lipscomb@governor.ms.gov

<HB 1523 Signing Statement.docx>

<Senate 2687 Bill Signing Statement.pdf>

This e-mail message from Alliance Defending Freedom and any accompanying documents or embedded messages is intended for the named recipients only. Because Alliance Defending Freedom is a legal entity engaged in the practice of law, this communication contains information, which may include metadata, that is confidential, privileged, attorney work product, or otherwise protected from disclosure under applicable law. If you have received this message in error, are not a named recipient, or are not the employee or agent responsible for delivering this message to a named recipient, be advised that any review, disclosure, use, dissemination, distribution, or reproduction of this message or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and permanently delete the message. PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATION/ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT.

April 1, 2015

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE
MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE:

GOVERNOR'S SIGNING STATEMENT FOR HOUSE BILL 1523

I am signing House Bill 1523, "AN ACT TO CREATE THE "PROTECTING FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE FROM GOVERNMENT DISCRIMINATION ACT"; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS REGARDING A SINCERELY HELD RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR MORAL CONVICTION FOR PERSONS, RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND PRIVATE ASSOCIATIONS; TO DEFINE A DISCRIMINATORY ACTION FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT; TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON MAY ASSERT A VIOLATION OF THIS ACT AS A CLAIM AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN REMEDIES; TO REQUIRE A PERSON BRINGING A CLAIM UNDER THIS ACT TO DO SO NOT LATER THAN TWO YEARS AFTER THE DISCRIMINATORY ACTION WAS TAKEN; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES."

I am a staunch supporter of the freedom of conscience, a right that our state and nation have long protected. I also believe in economic freedom and have worked tirelessly to make Mississippi a place where businesses of all sizes are free to thrive, as we have seen through the billions of dollars those businesses have invested here in the past few years.

This bill preserves the freedom of all Mississippians to peacefully live, worship, and work according to their religious or moral beliefs. It ensures that the government does not discriminate against churches, and other non-profit organizations, such as adoption agencies, schools, and charities, by denying them tax exemptions, contracts, or licenses simply for following their deeply held beliefs. It also maintains an environment that is friendly to businesses by securing their freedom to operate consistent with their convictions.

I want to thank our legislature for crafting a bill that affirms that the freedom of conscience and economic freedom will remain the foundation for building a stronger, more prosperous state.

April 1, 2015

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE:

GOVERNOR'S SIGNING STATEMENT FOR HOUSE BILL 1523

I am signing House Bill 1523, "AN ACT TO CREATE THE "PROTECTING FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE FROM GOVERNMENT DISCRIMINATION ACT"; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN PROTECTIONS REGARDING A SINCERELY HELD RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR MORAL CONVICTION FOR PERSONS, RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND PRIVATE ASSOCIATIONS; TO DEFINE A DISCRIMINATORY ACTION FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT; TO PROVIDE THAT A PERSON MAY ASSERT A VIOLATION OF THIS ACT AS A CLAIM AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN REMEDIES; TO REQUIRE A PERSON BRINGING A CLAIM UNDER THIS ACT TO DO SO NOT LATER THAN TWO YEARS AFTER THE DISCRIMINATORY ACTION WAS TAKEN; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES."

This bill preserves the freedom of all Mississippians to peacefully live, worship, and work according to their religious or moral beliefs about marriage. It ensures that the government does not discriminate against or punish churches, and other organizations, such as adoption agencies, schools, and charities, by denying them tax exemptions, contracts, or licenses simply for following their deeply held beliefs. It also safeguards against the government forcing citizens to surrender free speech and religious freedom in order to run their businesses. We should respect a diversity of beliefs in our state, and not allow government to punish some of our citizens who have different views.

~~Furthermore, efforts like these are essential to the continued economic freedom of businesses across our~~ State. Businesses thrive where the freedom of individuals and employers to operate according to their convictions is protected. In the two years since Mississippi enacted the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, numerous major corporations have expanded in our state, representing billions of dollars of new investment. This bill protects the freedom of individuals to make personal choices without government intervention, and will positively impact our State's reputation.

Freedom of conscience is a precious human right, and preserving these cherished freedoms is important to me. People throughout world history under every sort of regime have been "free to believe." What makes America unique is our freedom to peacefully live out those beliefs, and our Constitution protects that freedom. The real test of liberty is what happens when we disagree. I am therefore signing House Bill 1523 because I am a champion of freedom and I want to ensure that in Mississippi tolerance remains a two way street.