

# CLC

## CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION

**For Immediate Release**

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**Statement from Gus Reyes, director of the Christian Life Commission, in response to President Trump's executive order on religious liberty**

AUSTIN - "I am happy this administration is committed to religious liberty. It is important to the functioning of a pluralistic society. Rightly applied protections for churches, religious institutions and nonprofits are vital to our ability to faithfully serve our neighbors, parishioners and communities without fear of compromising our religious beliefs.

"The Johnson Amendment, however, is not a threat to religious liberty. It sets forth limits to political activity for nonprofits, like churches, who want to avoid paying federal taxes. While I wholeheartedly think pastors should speak to current issues in their communities, I caution against turning the pulpit into a place for partisan politics and the endorsement of candidates.

"It is important to recognize the diversity of the body of Christ, including political affiliations. We should remain focused on loving our neighbors and spreading the gospel."

Dr. Gus Reyes, Director  
Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission

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The Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission speaks to, but not for, Texas Baptists, helping them apply their faith to life through ethics, public policy and impact ministries. The Bible serves as the foundation for the transformative work of the CLC. Texas Baptists (Baptist General Convention of Texas), established in 1886, is the largest state denominational convention of its kind, with more than 5,300 affiliate churches seeking to live out the Great Commission and the Great Commandment in Texas and beyond.