

HB 1382

Unfavorable

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I am against this bill because the Trust Clause has been around for hundreds of years. It was established 1796 to ensure that houses of worship built with offerings from Methodist parishioners remained as Methodist houses of worship even if the current membership decided they did not want to be Methodist.

Consider my church. It was built in 1858 with funds donated by the Methodist parishioners at that time. It has been repaired and maintained by generations of Methodists. For the current membership to claim ownership and have the right to take this building with them for free would be unfair. While they have the right to leave the Methodist church, to let them take the building would invalidate the intent of all of the funds donated and efforts taken for over 250 years by probably thousands of previous parishioners who wanted a Methodist church in our community.

As I said, I am against this bill.