

I oppose this bill because it goes against the First Amendment, which protects our basic freedoms. The First Amendment guarantees our right to speak freely, practice our faith, think for ourselves, and gather with others. These rights are essential in a free society.

The government should not use nonprofit status to pressure organizations to limit what they say. This bill would allow the State of Maryland to fine churches and religious schools or take away their tax exemptions if they speak about candidates or elections. That would unfairly punish religious and political speech that is protected by the Constitution.

For these reasons, I strongly oppose this bill.