Christian Employers Alliance Disappointed with the Passage of HR 8404, the (dis) "Respect for Marriage" Act

Washington, D.C. — "The very fabric of our society is in peril," said CEA President Shannon Royce, J.D., "thanks to the passage of H.R. 8404, the deceptively named "Respect for Marriage" Act. When the president signs this legislation into law, businesses and nonprofits that exist to help citizens and communities flourish will be in the crosshairs of anyone who has animus against biblical beliefs."

"Despite valiant attempts to protect religious freedom through legislative amendments," Royce continued, "progressive forces succeeded in dismantling centuries of societal understanding and religious freedom protections."

In a nutshell, HR 8404 will:

- Empower the federal government with vast new ways and means to discriminate against businesses, nonprofits, and Americans for having sincerely held religious beliefs on marriage.
- Redefine marriage to include any new marriage definition that a state chooses to adopt. Such recognition impacts myriad laws and policies regarding marriage, its benefits, and parental rights.
- Deputize activist citizens and groups to sue citizens, organizations, and businesses.

"Congress failed to safeguard a natural right enshrined in the Constitution today," concluded Royce. "CEA will continue to pray and fight for the countless people of faith who desire to live and work peacefully according to their convictions and for faith-based organizations that exist to serve those in need."

<u>Christian Employers Alliance</u> is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to unite, equip, and represent Christian-owned businesses to protect religious freedom and to provide the opportunity for employees, businesses, and communities to flourish.

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