

APPENDIX—STATEMENTS OF INTEREST

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a Christian denomination with over 16 million members worldwide. Religious liberty is a fundamental Church doctrine: “We claim the privilege of worshiping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship how, where, or what they may.” Article of Faith 11. Also, we believe that “governments . . . are bound to enact laws for the protection of all citizens in the free exercise of their religious belief.” *Doctrine & Covenants* 134:4. This brief reflects the Church’s determination to strengthen religious liberty as a fundamental civil right.

The **Jewish Coalition for Religious Liberty** is an incorporated, cross-denominational group of lawyers, rabbis, and communal professionals who practice Judaism and are committed to defending religious liberty. Amicus’s members have each written extensively on the role of religion in public life. Representing members of the legal profession, and as adherents of a minority religion, amicus has a unique interest in ensuring that Title VII protects religious beliefs and practices in the workplace in the United States.

Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission is the moral concerns and public policy entity of the Southern Baptist Convention, the nation’s largest Protestant denomination, with over 46,000 autonomous churches and nearly 15.8 million members. The Commission is charged by the Convention with addressing public

policy affecting such issues as religious freedom, freedom of speech, sanctity of human life, family, and ethics. Southern Baptists believe they are under divine obligation to live out the requirements of their faith in all aspects of life, including in their employment. We support the ability of members of other faith groups to be able to do so as well.

The Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC) is a community-based public affairs nonprofit organization working for the integration of Muslims into American society. MPAC aims to increase the public understanding of Islam and to improve policies that affect American Muslims, by engaging our government, media, and communities. MPAC's view is that America is enriched by the vital contributions of American Muslims. Since 1988, MPAC has worked diligently to offer the public a portrayal that goes beyond stereotypes and shows that Muslims are part of a vibrant American pluralism. MPAC supports the right to free belief and expression for people of all faiths or no faith, and strongly supports Title VII's workplace protections for religious liberty.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a Missouri nonprofit corporation, has more than 6,000 member congregations with about 2 million baptized members throughout the United States. The Synod is divided into 35 Districts in all 50 states and has 22,000 ordained and commissioned ministers. In addition to numerous Synod-wide entities, it has two seminaries, nine universities, the largest Protestant parochial school system in America, and hundreds of recognized

service organizations operating all manner of charitable nonprofit corporations throughout the country. The Synod treasures religious freedom and fully supports and promotes religious liberty, including the civil rights of religious Americans in the workplace.

The Sikh Coalition is the largest community-based Sikh civil rights organization in the United States. Since its inception on September 11, 2001, the Sikh Coalition has worked to defend civil rights and liberties for all people, empower the Sikh community, create an environment where Sikhs can lead a dignified life unhindered by bias or discrimination, and educate the broader community about Sikhism. The Sikh Coalition joins this brief out of the belief that the religious liberty protection of Title VII is essential for Sikhs and other religious minority communities.

Church Of God In Christ, Inc. is the fifth largest Protestant religious denomination and the largest African-American denomination in the United States, with over 12,000 churches in 90 countries worldwide. The Church seeks to protect the religious freedoms of its members and all Americans.
