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With the passage of House Bill 1523 and subsequent signing into law by Governor Phil Bryant this week, the Mississippi legislative and Executive branch have both acted boldly and proactively to ensure the continued freedom of conscience rights for individuals, churches, schools, and public employees. It provides common sense protection for those who believe that marriage has always and will always be defined by our Creator as “between one man and one woman.” In June of 2015 five Supreme Court Judges overruled the will of millions of American citizens in state after state after they single handily issued the Obergefell ruling which essentially redefined the institution of marriage which is both sacred and God given in the conscience of so many of our citizens. Even Chief Justice Roberts, when declaring his decision stated that the ruling created “serious questions about religious liberty.” House Bill 1523 restores those protective rights to so many of the citizens of Mississippi, who in their heart truly believe that marriage is reserved to the union of one man and one woman.

While many in the liberal community are labeling the law as discriminatory and refer to Mississippi’s past as evidence that the state is continuing its’ backward thinking ideology, I found the law to be crafted in a manner to be self-protective and non-discriminatory in every way. I commend Governor Bryant and the Legislature for their courage in standing in the gap and realizing that this state and this nation were built on Judeo-Christian beliefs and the sanctity of marriage between one man and one woman is at the very core of these beliefs.