

House Bill 756

By: Representatives Tanner of the 9<sup>th</sup>, Rice of the 95<sup>th</sup>, Nix of the 69<sup>th</sup>, Cantrell of the 22<sup>nd</sup>,  
and Battles of the 15<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to selling  
2 and other trade practices, so as to protect certain sellers of goods or services against  
3 infringement of religious freedom; to define a term; to provide an effective date; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to selling and other  
8 trade practices, is amended by adding a new article to read as follows:

9 "ARTICLE 35

10 10-1-1000.

11 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'religious organization' means a church, a  
12 religious school, an association or convention of churches, a convention mission agency,  
13 or an integrated auxiliary of a church or convention or association of churches, when such  
14 entity is qualified as an exempt religious organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the  
15 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

16 (b) No sole proprietor, partner in a business partnership, or statutory close corporation  
17 under Code Section 14-2-902 shall be required to sell goods or services directly to a  
18 religious organization or for a religious or matrimonial ceremony in violation of such  
19 seller's right to free exercise of religion under the Constitution of this state or of the United  
20 States."

21 SECTION 2.

22 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
23 without such approval.

24

**SECTION 3.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.