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PRIMARY SOURCES FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Act for Establishing Religious Freedom, January 16, 1786 (p. 1 of 2)

An Act for establishing Veligious Freedom. .

Whereas Almighty Gut hath created the ment free; that all and to input the influence of by touchinets or by touchinets on by touchinets and incapacitation, and only to bight habits at hypoteness and meaningly, and areas departies from the falls of the hely author of our religion, who being. Sord, bett of bedy and subtout only to bight habits at hypoteness on either, as one in his dimighty toward to be. That the impleious presentation of legislators and releas, could as well as verticulfied, the bring them school out fallade and uninfrict men have appress them on others, but the falls of others, tetting up there are a gameter and made of the bight habits and mentals at fallade and uninfrict men have appress them on others, but is tablished and maintained falls even appression one the greated part of the mails and through all limits that be empt a man be farilish contributions of menty for the propagation of openeess which he discover and simple and typan med; that even the forcing him to import the are that leacher of his own religious persuasion is depressing them of the contributions to the part of the mails and through the propagation of the contribution of the propagation of the discover of the two of the second of the propagation of the contribution of the propagation of the contribution of the propagation of the contribution of the part of the mails in the part of the information of his own religious persuasion is depressing them of the contribution of the part of the part of the part of the part of the second of the and the second of the two of the part of the part of the part of the part of the and the part of the second of the part of the part of the second of the part of the second of the part of the part

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PRIMARY SOURCES FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Act for Establishing Religious Freedom, January 16, 1786 (p. 2 of 2)

The civil magistrate to intrude his powers into the field of opinion and to restrain the profession or propagation of principles on supposition ence deshows all religious liberty strove or condemn the sentiments a others is time enough for the rightful purposes of civil government, for its officers to enteriore good order: and linally, that Truth is great and will prevail if left to harself, that she is the proper and sufficient antagonist berror, and has nothing to fear from the conflict, unless by human interposition disarmed of her natural weapons free argument and debate, errors ceasing to be dangerous when it is permitted freely to contradict them: "Be it endetted by General Af Sombly that no man shall os compelled is frequent or support any religious worship, place, or ministry whatsoever, nor shall be enforced, in 1 or burthened in his body or goods, nor shall other weser suffer on account of his religious opinions or belief, but that all mon that to prosels, and by argument to maintain, their opinions in matters of Religion, and that the same shall in no wise drivenish, entarize or afect their civil capacities. Und though we well know that this afsembly elected by the people for the ordinary purposes of Legislation only have ne power to restrain the acts of succeeding lisemblies constituted with powers equal to our own, and that therefore would be of no effect in law; yet we are free to declare and do declare that the rights hereby assorted, are of the natural rights of man = kind, and that if any act shall be hereafter passed to repeal the present or to narrow its operation, fuch act will be an infringement of neiturai right. Minihald lary J. J. Bing Harrison for AS

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