

Sample Letter To Religious Leader, Faith Based Organization, School Representative

Dear #####,

You Can Help Protect the Religious Rights of all Californians By Signing the *Religious Rights Coalition* Statement of Support

[CLICK HERE TO SIGN](#)

Many private and public entities added COVID-19 vaccine requirements as a condition of access to employment and education, as well as participation in travel, entertainment, and businesses. This year, California legislators introduced bills that would have codified some of those COVID-19 vaccine requirements, as well as a COVID-19 vaccine requirement bill for children that would have removed **conscientious and religious beliefs exemptions for any additional vaccine requirements**. The bills failed, but might be brought back in 2023.

Both the *Federal Civil Rights Act* and the *State Unruh Act* protect employees and patrons of businesses from discrimination based on, but not limited to, religion. During the pandemic, the courts have upheld the religious rights of individuals in the face of COVID-19 mandates. In February, 2021, the [Supreme Court ruled](#) that California cannot ban in-person church services. In July, 2022, a court upheld religious protection by ordering NorthShore University HealthSystem to pay a \$10 million settlement as a result of their illegal termination of employees and refusal to grant any religious exemptions to their COVID-19 vaccine mandate. You can read about that case [here](#).

Unfortunately, religious protection is not currently extended to children who attend public and private schools in California. *Religious Rights Coalition* has drafted proposed legislation to allow students the same religious exemptions that employees and patrons have.

Momentum is on our side. If you support safeguarding religious rights, please sign on to the Statement of Support for Religious and Conscientious Beliefs Exemptions by going to <http://religiousrightscoalition.org/> and clicking on the appropriate category representing you or your organization.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

#####

If you have questions, please email: info@religiousrightscoalition.org

Statement of Support

Article One of the California Constitution recognizes every person's "right to the free exercise and enjoyment of religion without discrimination or preference," describing this right as "liberty of conscience." I support the rights of families or individuals to make health decisions, without coercion, discrimination, or segregation, based on religious and conscientious beliefs. This includes the existence of religious and conscientious beliefs exemptions from required vaccines, with those exempted retaining the ability to fully access, without onerous restrictions, in-person employment, education, public resources, and any other function of society.

Religious Rights Coalition (RRC) is a group of religious leaders, churches, private schools, and individuals that support the rights of families and individuals to make health decisions, without coercion, discrimination, or segregation, based on religious and conscientious beliefs, while retaining the ability to fully access in-person employment, education, public resources, and any other function of society.