

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEKLY from

Americans for Freedom of Religion

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America's 249th Independence Day - July 4, 2025

We Americans love to celebrate birthdays and can be incredibly creative to mark those special birthdays in our lives and the lives of our loved ones. Our best efforts will be well spent in planning to celebrate America's 250th birthday on Independence Day 2026, marking the signing of our Declaration of Independence.

America's 250th birthday is a blessing to each American and many churches in America are planning to give thanks and to honor America's religious freedom. Congregations of every denomination will be celebrating the privilege of practicing their faith in the only nation founded by its citizens and solidly based on the Judeo-Christian ethic. Still the United States is not a "Christian nation" because our founders saw the history of theocracies and knew them to always result in tyranny. They determined that freedom of conscience would support an abundance of religions as each man chose to worship his God according to the dictates of his conscience. Because no one religion, including Christianity, would be established as a state religion, each man would be free and secure in following his spiritual path and would, according to President George Washington, live in peace and "... there shall be none to make him afraid." - George Washington Letter to the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, RI

An example of a clear and important benefit of Constitutional freedom of religion is the Supreme Court's June 27, 2025 opinion upholding the rights of parents to remove their children from required public school lessons which teach sex education lessons which violate the parents religious values and beliefs.

Another Constitutional protection of parental rights to guide their children's moral development is the Tennessee law restricting adult cabaret, drag performances, where children could be present. Drag queen story hours in schools and libraries were disallowed by law for children as sexually explicit adult entertainment.

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