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Religious freedom according to the U.S. Constitution versus religious freedom according to some voucher advocates.

The first amendment of the U.S. Constitution prevents Congress from making laws respecting an establishment of religion and prohibiting the free exercise of religion.

Article I, section 7, of the Ohio Constitution in pertinent part states: “No person shall be compelled to attend, erect, or support any place of worship, or maintain any form of worship, against his consent…”

The second clause of Article VI, section 2 states: “but, no religious or other sect, or sects, shall ever have any exclusive right to, or control of, any part of the school funds of this State.”

These constitutional provisions make it crystal clear that tax support of religion is in violation of the Constitutions of the U.S and the State of Ohio.

Citizens cannot be compelled to support or practice religion and cannot be prohibited from doing so. This is essence of religious freedom.

Religious freedom is redefined by those in the school voucher camp. They tout that religious freedom entitles them to a taxpayer subsidy to support their particular religious doctrine and that they can determine who benefits from the tax grants.

The Coalition’s litigation to stop the EdChoice voucher scheme is on track for success.