From: Bob & Joyce Berntsen
To: Preston Christie A
Subject: Please stop favoring churches over other non-profits
Date: Friday, September 11, 2015 4:15:53 PM

Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue NW, Rm 6129
Washington, DC 20224
Attn: Christie A. Preston

Regardless of whether a non-profit organization espouses a religious, religious neutral or even an atheist position, each should be treated equally.

Currently, the IRS singles out religious denominations for privileged treatment by exempting them from the disclosure requirements with which all other 501(c)(3) organizations must comply or lose their exemption.

The privilege of not being taxed must come with some measures of accountability. We in New Jersey recently witnessed something of a scandal when it was disclosed an archbishop was using Church funds to finance a major portion of his retirement mansion!

Please require churches & all religious non-profits conform to the same IRS requirements regarding 501(c)(3) groups.

At a minimum, the IRS should require any organization claiming religious non-profit status to file an annual financial disclosure notice with the IRS.

Please, please stop favoring churches over other non-profits.

Sincerely,

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