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March 14, 2016

The Honorable Rodney Ellis  
Texas State  
P.O. Box 12068  
Austin, Texas 78711-2068

Dear Senator Ellis:

Thank you for your insightful editorial, *'Religious freedom' proposals mask discriminatory intent*, that appeared in last week's Houston Chronicle. Your thesis, that religion should never be used as a rationale for discrimination against any group, is absolutely correct. Your advocacy on this subject and leadership is appreciated by so many in our community.

As you know, ADL is committed to fighting all forms of bigotry and protecting the civil rights of all people. We are truly grateful for your courage and we are ready to stand with you as we work together to make sure that religious freedom is never used to inflict bigotry or hate on another.

With appreciation,

George R. Gibson, Chair  
ADL Southwest Regional Board

Sue Hauenstein, Chair  
ADL Civil Rights Committee

Cheryl Drazin,  
ADL's Jean and Jerry Moore Southwest Area Counsel

Jodi Bernstein  
Senior Associate Regional Director  
ADL Southwest Region

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**Southwest Region**

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