

**House File 2130 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2130

BY SALMON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act pertaining to bona fide religious purposes under the  
2 Iowa civil rights Act of 1965.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 216.2, Code 2020, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 01. "*Bona fide religious purpose*" means  
4 any lawful purpose that furthers a sincerely held religious  
5 belief, whether or not compelled by, or central to, a system  
6 of religious belief, and without regard to the correctness,  
7 validity, or plausibility of the religious belief. "*Bona fide*  
8 *religious purpose*" shall be interpreted broadly, with any and  
9 all ambiguities resolved in favor of the bona fide religious  
10 institution professing the religious belief.

11 EXPLANATION

12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
13 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

14 This bill defines "bona fide religious purpose" under the  
15 Iowa civil rights Act of 1965 ("the Act") as any lawful purpose  
16 that furthers a sincerely held religious belief, whether or not  
17 compelled by, or central to, a system of religious belief, and  
18 without regard to the correctness, validity, or plausibility of  
19 the religious belief. The term shall be interpreted broadly,  
20 with any and all ambiguities resolved in favor of the bona fide  
21 religious institution professing the religious belief.

22 The term, which pertains to certain exceptions to the Act  
23 relating to employment, accommodations or services, education,  
24 and housing, was not previously defined.