



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rep. Bob Thorpe Introduces Bill to End Taxpayer-Funded Classes that Discriminate

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – This week, Representative Bob Thorpe (R-06) introduced House Bill 2120 which, if enacted, would end public funding of classes that discriminate, or promote resentment towards individuals and groups based upon their race, religion, political affiliation, social class, or gender. If enacted, state-funded community colleges and universities would still be able to offer these classes, however, taxpayers would no longer be forced to fund them.

Contained within the bill is this language: **“Arizona shall not educate nor judge an individual based upon their religion, political affiliation, social class, gender, ethnicity, race or by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character,”** which was inspired by the famous 1963 Martin Luther King Jr. "I have a dream" speech.

According to Thorpe, **“Since the 1960s and the passage of the Civil Rights Act, our nation has made great advances in protecting civil rights and curtailing discrimination. However, we are now seeing classes popping up that truly threaten these monumental gains. Just like all of our bills, as HB 2120 will go through numerous committee hearings over the next four months and the public is invited to comment on the bill language in order to improve the final version and intent of the bill.”**

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