

# CHURCHES CAN ADVOCATE FOR THE VALUE THEM BOTH AMENDMENT!

## Why Churches Can Advocate for the VALUE THEM BOTH Constitutional Amendment

A 501(c)(3) organization, including a church, is allowed to engage in an “insubstantial” amount of lobbying. IRS defines lobbying to include advocacy for or against a ballot referendum for a constitutional amendment.

### Advocacy on the Amendment Must Be “Insubstantial” As It Relates to All of a Church’s Activities

501(c)(3) organizations can advocate for the amendment as long as they do not expend more than 15% of their total expenditures for the year, considering the time, effort, and finances expended on the advocacy.

### Things a Church Can Do to Advocate for the VALUE THEM BOTH Amendment

- Tell the congregation to vote yes on the VALUE THEM BOTH Amendment, both from the pulpit and in church communications.
- Encourage petition signatures.
- Distribute literature provided by another organization to church members.
- Show VALUE THEM BOTH Amendment video(s) to the congregation.
- Invite supporters of the amendment to speak to the congregation.
- Put a sign in front of the church supporting the amendment.
- Communicate to the general public, urging people to support the VALUE THEM BOTH Amendment.

## If Spending \$50 or More, a Church Must Report the Expenditure

According to Kansas law, any church, person, or organization (other than a political committee) who solicits or receives any contributions or makes any expenditures in support of, or opposition to, a constitutional amendment is required to file a Kansas Campaign Finance Ethics Report after receiving a contribution or making an expenditure that equals or exceeds \$50. Contact us for further information. This would **only** apply if a church were to produce its own materials, etc. It **does not** apply if a church is purchasing church packets from the VALUE THEM BOTH Coalition. When purchasing a church packet from VALUE THEM BOTH, our team will handle all necessary reporting.

The VALUE THEM BOTH Coalition is available to provide further information on these matters or direct you to others who can assist.

*The information provided regarding federal nonprofit tax law has been evaluated and approved by Kriegshauser Ney Law Group. The information provided does not constitute legal advice for your specific situation and is for general informational purposes only.*

Paid for by VALUE THEM BOTH, Julie Samaniego, Treasurer