

Marilyn: Please return this with the letter that you write.

Thanks,  
Jan

April 30, 1964

The Honorable Hale Boggs + *Sance H. Robert*  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Boggs:

We of the New Orleans Section, National Council of Jewish Women, have been reading material regarding Congressman Becker's proposed amendment, H.J. Resolution 693, which seeks to nullify the Supreme Court decision banning prayer and Bible reading in public schools.

It is fine to say participation would be on a voluntary basis, but it isn't likely a six or seven year old would ask to be excused, thereby opening himself to accusations from his classmates. We do not feel there should be any tampering with the Bill of Rights regarding an establishment of religion. Since 1953 the National Council of Jewish Women has resolved to oppose legislation that violates the principle of separation of church and state which is basic to our system of public education.

Proponents of the amendment say it would bring an awareness of God to children whose families practice no religion. This is clearly an establishment of religion which is the duty of the church or synagogue and the home.

We hope you are among those opposing Congressman Becker's amendment, and urge that you so testify before the Judiciary Committee.

Wishing you continued success in your endeavors,

Yours truly,

Mrs. George Sterne  
Public Affairs Department,  
N.O. Section, N.C.J.W.