

For Immediate Release

3/8/2005

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## **Philanthropy Exhorts Nonprofit Sector to Speak out on Dangers of Bush's Faith-Based Agenda**

WASHINGTON-The National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy (NCRP) today exhorts the nonprofit sector to speak out on the dangers of the President's FY 2006 budget, for example, slashes and eliminates over 154 programs, but increases faith-based spending. "It's time for the nonprofit leadership to step up to the plate and call this agenda for what it is-assaults on the secular nonprofit sector," says NCRP President Jeff Krehely. NCRP is specifically referring to recent actions rolled out by the White House and Congress:

- Just last week, Sen. Rick Santorum (R-PA) announced the Senate Republican Poverty Alleviation Act, which would increase faith-based spending.
- Just last week, the House passed H.R. 27, the "Job Training Improvement Act of 2005," and referred it to the Senate.
- "While there is a coalition of groups, including civil rights organizations, opposing H.R. 27 and other faith-based spending increases, the House has passed H.R. 27 and the Senate is expected to pass it soon," says Krehely.
- In January, Representative Walter Jones (R-NC) introduced H.R. 235, the "Houses of Worship Freedom of Access to Religious Buildings Act," which would require the federal government to provide access to religious buildings for federal agencies.

NCRP is a national watchdog, research and advocacy organization that promotes public accountability in the nonprofit sector.

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