



AMERICAN PRINCIPLES PROJECT

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DEMINT'S CPAC WITHDRAWAL SHOWS UNITED FRONT

Key Tea Party Backer Joins Boycott Over Objections from Elite Republicans

Washington, DC— The American Principles Project today applauded Senator Jim DeMint (R-SC) for deciding not to participate in this year's Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC). The event organizers have alienated many social conservatives after allowing GOProud, a group which pushes homosexual rights and gay marriage, to be a participating sponsor.

GO Proud's chairman recently suggested that Senator DeMint, the most active Senate conservative and Tea Party leader, "has given up the ability to lead on any issues conservatives care about."

"We applaud Senator DeMint for taking a clear, uncompromising position on social issues of critical importance to conservatives," said **Andy Blom, executive director of the American Principles Project**.

In November, APP organized a coalition of conservative organizations protesting CPAC's inclusion of GOProud because it is "fundamentally incompatible with a movement that has long embraced the ideals of family and faith," it wrote in a [letter](#) to CPAC Chairman David Keene and his fellow board members.

"We are calling on CPAC speakers to confront the major social issues that conservatives must rally behind: the expansion of abortion coverage through the new healthcare plan, the legal challenges to gay marriage, and the erosion of the family and parental choice in our education system.

"The dispute over CPAC has become a flashpoint for this larger philosophical divide between elites and the grassroots. Sen. DeMint is the complete conservative and we applaud him for taking a strong stand on issues that the Republican Party has always championed."

Recently, APP challenged CPAC's leadership after it gave Gov. Mitch Daniels the prized speaking slot at its prestigious "Reagan Dinner," calling the move "an affront to the millions of conservatives who believe that social issues such as abortion and traditional marriage are non-negotiable." Since APP launched the coalition, concern has grown and other groups have pulled out of the conference, including many past sponsors.

The American Principles Project is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to preserving and propagating the fundamental principles on which our country was founded - universal principles, embracing the notion that we are all, "created equal, endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights, and among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Through our efforts, we hope to return our nation to an understanding that governance via these timeless principles will only strengthen us as a country.

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