

California Congressman Aims to Bring Other Lawmakers Out of the Humanist Closet

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A California congressman recently proclaimed he doesn't "believe in God" while addressing a secular activist group's annual convention.

Rep. Jared Huffman (D-Calif.) "made his views on the nonexistence of God extremely clear" during pre-taped remarks before the Freedom From Religion Foundation's recent convention.

"I feel like I have sort of become the surrogate representative for countless folks across the United States that identify as nonreligious," Huffman reportedly said. "As many of you know, I am the token humanist in Congress."

The congressman said others tend to be "coy" about where they stand on faith, but he said he's "come right out and said it." Then, Huffman made his position clear.

"I'm a humanist and I don't believe in God," he said.

This revelation isn't entirely surprising considering past statements and advocacy. A 2017 article proclaimed Huffman wasn't "sure" if there was a God. He said he used to ignore questions about his faith but has changed course in recent years.

"I don't believe in religious tests, and I don't believe my religion is all that important to the people I represent, and I think there's too much religion in politics," he told the Post at the time. "For those reasons, I felt good about not even answering it."

Huffman became more vocal, though, crediting former President Donald Trump and others who were relying on Christianity in policy-making; thus, he, too, started speaking up. Rather than embrace the “atheist” label, though, he called himself—much like in the most recent video—a “humanist.”

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