

I have read that a Public Benefit Test is being proposed, and I would like to submit this message in support of this test. Many institutions that claim to be of a religious benefit to the public can easily inflate and distort their claims. I won't bother you with details about the Church of Scientology, but I am sure that many other submissions go into graphic detail about the Church's history. Please take the time to research Lisa McPherson, or other examples of their history. The quotations of their founder is a good place to start.

Any one session with Scientology that could cost more than a thousand dollars is an immediate cause for suspicion, and this disturbs me. I am a religious person, and many argue that atheism is a belief system that is superior to theism based on the notoriety of institutions similar to the Church of Scientology. Other cults have more direct tactics of stealing money and identities, and it's these few that rot the bunch and cause a potentially pious and charitable thing to become unsavory to the public. I do not want religion to look like a scam.

A test run by the government, any government anywhere, is a step in the right direction. However, please keep it simple. Investigations outside the realm of legality can generate a junction of church and state, and this may indeed corrupt either party. A test that investigates basic health and financial conditions is all that I feel is necessary. All we need is to tax the institutions that don't have any particular charitable, healthy, or legal benefits to the public.

Thank you for your time. Good luck in making the best decision!