



Resolution

COMMENDING THE SPONSORS OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 944, AND CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO URGE THE IRAQI GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS MINORITIES

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- WHEREAS** there is a present and widespread persecution of religious minorities in Iraq;
- WHEREAS** the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom has recommended that the President should designate Iraq a “country of particular concern” under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 because of the ongoing and severe abuses of religious freedom in Iraq;
- WHEREAS** such abuses have included religiously-motivated murders, abductions and kidnappings, beatings, rapes, forced conversions to Islam, and displacement from homes and attacks on religious sites
- WHEREAS** many of these abused and terrorized religious minorities are Christians, including evangelicals;
- WHEREAS** a bipartisan group of congressional representatives have sponsored House Resolution 944, recognizing this problem of religious persecution in Iraq and calling on the United States Government to respond accordingly,
- RESOLVED** National Religious Broadcasters commends those members of the House of Representatives who have sponsored House Resolution 944 and further urges the President and his Administration, including the Secretary of State, to urge the government of Iraq to take immediate and necessary steps to protect the lives, property, and liberties of religious minorities in Iraq including Christians, and to urge that government to implement such regulations and measures in that country as will be best suited to insure the full and equal rights of such religious minorities.



Resolution

NRB Urges Members and all Christians to Pray for President and Congress

- WHEREAS** United States President Barack Obama and the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate have been duly elected and serve in these high offices;
- WHEREAS** Our Nation faces a series of unprecedented challenges, including two wars, economic uncertainty and most importantly, a spiritual crisis; and
- WHEREAS** The Holy Scripture directs us in I Timothy 2:1 that “entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good and pleases God our Savior.”
- RESOLVED** That the Board of Directors of the National Religious Broadcasters, individually, and as a group, pledge to earnestly pray and call upon Christians everywhere to earnestly pray for our President, Barack Obama, and the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate.



Resolution

Opposing Any FCC Investigation into So-Called “Hate Speech” on Conservative Broadcasting Talk Shows

- WHEREAS** a petition was filed with the FCC in January 2009, by several advocacy groups requesting that the FCC conduct an investigation into “hate speech” allegedly occurring on talk radio programs;
- WHEREAS** that petition had targeted conservative talk programs in particular for investigation;
- WHEREAS** such an investigation by the FCC would have an unconstitutional “chilling effect” on all broadcasters, but in particular on Christian talk show programs, in that no well-defined, or constitutionally valid definitions of “hate speech” currently exist regarding broadcasting content;
- RESOLVED** that National Religious Broadcasters opposes the petition currently on file with the FCC which urges it to investigate instances of alleged “hate speech” on talk radio programs, and we urge the FCC to refrain from seeking to regulate, under the guise of “hate speech” or any other purported justification, the otherwise lawful content, opinions, or viewpoints of broadcasters.



Resolution

Opposing Forcible Reclamation of Broadcast Spectrum by the FCC

- WHEREAS** the FCC is considering taking spectrum away from TV broadcasters and giving it to the wireless industry for new media devices;
- WHEREAS** National Religious Broadcasters filed a formal Comment with the FCC, objecting to any mandatory forfeiture or reclamation of existing spectrum by current broadcasting licensees;
- WHEREAS** the FCC, and agencies and organizations supporting it, have intimated that a “value” judgment may be made to determine whether existing spectrum uses by broadcasters are outweighed by the “value” of new wireless uses and that such an undefined value determination might be the basis of deciding which broadcasters might have to forfeit some of their spectrum;
- RESOLVED** that National Religious Broadcasters opposes any forcible reclamation or forfeiture of broadcast spectrum currently being used by licensees for the purpose of transferring it to the wireless industry for new media devices, whatever the purported justification.



Resolution

Opposing the Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA)

- WHEREAS** both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives have introduced the Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA), which would grant special employment protections to persons based on their “sexual orientation,” or “gender identity;”
- WHEREAS** in hearings on ENDA in both the Senate and the House, NRB’s Senior Vice-President and General Counsel testified in opposition to ENDA, indicating that the bill’s alleged protections of religious freedom are minimal and illusory, and that many Christian Ministries and organizations would be swept within the enforcement of ENDA and would face staggering lawsuits and damage awards if they make faith-based employment decisions adverse to homosexuals, lesbians, bi-sexuals, transgenders, or adverse to other sexual practices that are also inconsistent with Scripture;
- RESOLVED** that National Religious Broadcasters opposes the Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA) and urges members of Congress to vote against it, and urges the President to veto the legislation if Congress passes it.



Resolution

Reaffirming Our Reliance on the Compassion And Sovereignty of God

WHEREAS domestically, we have seen financial distress impacting every segment of the American economy, and as an association we sense an increasing challenge against the freedom of Christian communicators and broadcasters to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in an unfettered manner, and to live-out the Christian faith in a manner that is free from unreasonable governmental intrusion or interference;

WHEREAS internationally, we are aware of continued aggression in many nations against basic freedoms in general and against the Christian faith in particular, and have also recently witnessed the devastation and human suffering in Haiti that comes with massive disasters;

RESOLVED that National Religious Broadcasters reaffirms, once again, our faith in and our reliance on two of the divine attributes in particular of our Lord - His divine compassion toward mankind, and His transcendent sovereignty over the affairs of man and nature - and that we recommit ourselves to the task of proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ, whose saving sacrifice on the cross alone is the only ultimate source of hope and redemption for the human race, and to the task of living lives that honor and glorify our Father who is in heaven and His only Son, Jesus Christ.



Resolution

Recommending Further Study Before Proceeding With the “Open Internet” Proposal

- WHEREAS** the FCC has issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding the “Open Internet,” and has proposed complicated and potentially disruptive and oppressive rules that would govern the Internet;
- WHEREAS** National Religious Broadcasters has filed a formal Comment with the FCC urging it to halt the current proceeding until such time as a thorough study is accomplished of instances of content or viewpoint discrimination by Internet Service Providers or other web “gate keepers,” and a review of alternatives of preserving an “Open Internet” other than through expansive federal control;
- WHEREAS** in the absence of such a study, the FCC proposal could well result in the stifling of free speech and religious expression by permitting and empowering Internet Service Providers and other web “gate keepers” to use vague FCC regulations as a pretext for viewpoint or content discrimination against Internet users and content generators;
- RESOLVED** that the National Religious Broadcasters opposes the current FCC proposal to govern the Internet until a thorough study is accomplished into instances of content or viewpoint discrimination currently being committed by Internet Service Providers or other web “gate keepers,” as well as a review of alternatives of preserving an “Open Internet” other than through expansive federal control.



Resolution

Urging the Department of Justice to Protect Religious Freedom and Free Speech as it Enforces New “Hate Crimes” Legislation

- WHEREAS** the United States Congress has passed, and President Obama has signed into law, new “hate crimes” legislation;
- WHEREAS** National Religious Broadcasters drafted language protective of religious freedom and free speech which was sponsored by Senator Sam Brownback, and which was added to that federal hate crimes legislation (“Brownback Amendment”);
- WHEREAS** NRB’s Senior Vice-President and General Counsel has alerted the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to the proper legal interpretation that should be given to the “Brownback Amendment” in the DOJ’s guidelines for U.S. Attorneys across the nation;
- RESOLVED** that the U.S. Department of Justice should incorporate the recommendations of NRB’s Senior Vice-President and General Counsel into its guidelines for U.S. Attorneys across the nation regarding the proper interpretation of the “Brownback Amendment” to the new hate crimes law, and further that Department of Justice should exercise extreme diligence to insure that Freedom of Religion and Freedom of Speech are protected from wrongful, oppressive, or improper criminal investigations or prosecutions under the guise of enforcement of the new hate crimes law.



Resolution

Urging the Motion Picture Association of America to Fulfill Its Stated Mission to Protect Children By Rating All Movies

- WHEREAS** under the standards of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) an R rating for a movie restricts the movie from being viewed in a theater by those under 17 years of age unless accompanied by an adult, and an NC-17 rating restricts the movie from being viewed in a theater by anyone 17 years or younger regardless of whether they are accompanied by an adult;
- WHEREAS** there is a loophole in the MPAA ratings system, to-wit: movie producers, marketing companies and production houses of films with extreme pornography and abhorrent violence, such as the movie Antichrist, who fear that an NC-17 rating would impact box office revenue can avoid having a rating at all by refusing to submit the movie to the MPAA, with the result that the movie will be labeled “unrated;”
- WHEREAS** both children of any age and unsuspecting adults can view “unrated” movies in theaters without adequate information or warnings regarding the objectionable content, or through video rental businesses such as Blockbuster, which refuses to rent NC-17 movies but will permit rental of “unrated” movies to children;
- RESOLVED** National Religious Broadcasters urges the MPAA to fulfill its stated mission to protect children by rating every movie released in movie theaters in America, regardless of whether a movie’s producers, marketing companies or production houses request the rating or not.