Resolution
Advocating Internet Freedom Globally

WHEREAS Freedom of religion and freedom of speech, core principles in the American Republic, are under siege in many places around the world;

WHEREAS Freedom has been the bedrock upon which the Internet has grown and flourished;

WHEREAS In addition to using physical means of repressing their people, a number of nations also restrict freedom on electronic media platforms, including broadcasting and the Internet;

WHEREAS Some regimes have advocated that more powers over the global Internet be given to an international body like the International Telecommunications Union of the United Nations;

WHEREAS NRB previously expressed concern that the FCC’s assertion of power under Title II of the Communications Act over broadband providers domestically could send a poor signal to such nations;

WHEREAS The Executive Branch of the U.S. Government intends to transfer America’s longtime supervisory role over Web domain names and addresses to a private organization, and Members of Congress rightly want details of the plan in advance and certification that it will not harm Internet freedom or allow another government to fill the void of the United States;

THEREFORE NRB calls on the United States to actively work to ensure freedom in electronic media, particularly the Internet, globally.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 23, 2016
Resolution

Affirming the Freedom to Believe in and to Speak about Biblical Marriage

WHEREAS  The Holy Scriptures reveal that God created human beings in His image, He created them male and female, He called them to be fruitful, and He instructs that “a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” (Genesis 1:28; Genesis 2:24);

WHEREAS  The Lord Jesus Christ reaffirmed these truths about gender, sexuality, and marriage—the holy union of one man and one woman (Matthew 19:4-6);

WHEREAS  Marriage is integral to the human family and, therefore, a bedrock institution for human society;

WHEREAS  Activist judges, including five Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court, have chosen to ignore the Bible, millennia of history, and the clear application of constitutional principles in an attempt to redefine marriage into something incompatible with the Creator’s definition of that most sacred institution;

WHEREAS  The Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution mandates that the Government shall neither prohibit the free exercise of religion nor abridge the freedoms of speech or the press;

WHEREAS  Christian communicators are compelled by faith to proclaim the Truth in love;

THEREFORE  NRB calls on agents of the U.S. Government to steadfastly preserve, protect, and defend the U.S. Constitution’s guarantee that all citizens are free to speak and free to exercise the tenets of their faith in daily life. NRB urges Congress and state legislatures to pass laws preventing government intolerance and discrimination against those who believe in and uphold biblical marriage. Moreover, NRB exhorts the United States to return to the Truth that marriage is the sacred union between one man and one woman.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 23, 2016
Resolutions

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WHEREAS The Holy Scriptures teach us that government authorities are established by God and are responsible under Him to uphold a good and orderly society (Romans 13:1–7);

WHEREAS Jesus challenged His followers to be "salt and light" and urged them to give Caesar the things that are Caesar’s. (Matthew 5:13-16; 22:21);

WHEREAS The United States Declaration of Independence states, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed”;

WHEREAS The United States Constitution begins with these three words, "We the People....";

WHEREAS Christians are called to faithfully steward the gifts and talents God gives us (Matthew 25:14-30);

WHEREAS One gift citizens of the United States have been granted is the right to participate in the selection of local, state, and national leaders;

WHEREAS It is estimated that only about 25 percent of American evangelical Christians utilize the opportunity to speak truth to power by voting;

THEREFORE NRB, a non-partisan association, encourages all Christians in the United States to faithfully exercise their right to vote by registering to vote and then voting in local, state, and national elections, including those in this current year.

BE IT RESOLVED

Approved by the Board of Directors February 23, 2016
Resolution

In Support of Persecuted Christians Worldwide

WHEREAS Persecution of Christians is growing more severe worldwide;

WHEREAS Attacks by Islamist militants, particularly ISIS in the Middle East and Boko Haram in Nigeria, have been particularly horrific and barbaric. Moreover, the brutal mistreatment of Christians worldwide for their faith in Christ continues unabated.

WHEREAS In North Korea, long a prime oppressor, Christians attempting to fellowship with one another or suspected of practicing their faith may be arrested, tortured, or executed. The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom estimates that tens of thousands of North Koreans suffer in harsh labor camps for their faith;

WHEREAS Christians also appear to be increasingly targeted in the world's two most populous countries, China and India, as well as numerous other nations. In fact, Christians in more than 60 countries face government or community persecution;

WHEREAS The United States continues to stand as a beacon of liberty in the world;

THEREFORE NRB encourages the U.S. Government to advocate to the international community the principles of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and to urge the adoption of similar standards in the rest of the world. NRB further urges the U.S. to be loud and lucid in its condemnation of attacks on Christians and other religious minorities overseas.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 23, 2016
Resolution

Supporting Israel and All Who Seek Peace in the Middle East

WHEREAS Israel’s history, including the creation and continued existence of the modern State of Israel, reveals the providential hand of God and His commitment to fulfilling His promises in His Holy Word, the Bible.

WHEREAS Christians are instructed to pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! ‘May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!’ For my brothers and companions’ sake I will say, ‘Peace be within you!’ For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.” (Psalm 122: 6-9)

WHEREAS Israel regularly faces the violence of terrorism and must constantly deal with hostile threats from influential powers in the Middle East, including Iran, as well as other global powers.

WHEREAS Israel shares a longstanding, special relationship with the United States as nations committed to freedom and democratic governance that respects the rule of law and the rights of minorities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED NRB calls on its members to pray for the peace of Jerusalem, and for God’s protection over all of Israel, and for all people of good will who seek true peace in the Holy Land; furthermore, while other nations and international bodies may alienate or abandon Israel, NRB calls on the United States to continue to stand steadfast by Israel in its time of need.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 23, 2016
Resolution

Supporting the Religious Freedom Restoration Act

WHEREAS The Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) is a federal law that for more than two decades has instituted in U.S. courts a balancing test by which the Government must give deference to the constitutional right of religious freedom unless it can prove a “compelling government interest” achieved by the “least restrictive means”;

WHEREAS RFRA was intended to remedy the U.S. Supreme Court’s Employment Division v. Smith ruling in 1990 that many observers worried would effectively set too low a bar by which the Government could elude the First Amendment’s Free Exercise of Religion clause;

WHEREAS A politically and ideologically broad coalition supported RFRA, and Congress approved it nearly unanimously in 1993;

WHEREAS As President Bill Clinton signed RFRA into law in a White House Rose Garden ceremony, he stated, “The free exercise of religion has been called the first freedom – that which originally sparked the development of the full range of the Bill of Rights.” He added that America’s Founders “knew that religion helps to give our people the character without which a democracy cannot survive. They knew that there needed to be a space of freedom between government and people of faith that otherwise government might usurp”; 

WHEREAS After the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 2014 that RFRA protected Hobby Lobby and Conestoga Wood Specialties from the blunt force of the Obama Administration’s mandate that all new health plans cover contraception, sterilization, and abortion-inducing drugs, liberal Members of Congress unsuccessfully attempted to gut RFRA by exempting employer health care from the purview of that broad law;

WHEREAS Powerful liberal lobbies seem to be growing generally more intolerant of religious liberty and particularly more willing to use legislation to undermine RFRA and related state laws;

THEREFORE NRB lauds the free exercise of religion as the first freedom delineated by America’s Founders in the Bill of Rights, and NRB urges government officials to uphold and respect the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 23, 2016
Resolution

Urging No Taxpayer Funding of Abortion, Particularly Planned Parenthood

WHEREAS All people are made in the image of God and, therefore, have intrinsic value and dignity (Genesis 1:27; 1 Corinthians 11:7a);

WHEREAS The breath of life is a miraculous gift from God and every person is “fearfully and wonderfully made” by Him. Moreover, God has a special purpose for every prenatal human life (Genesis 2:7; Psalm 139:13-16);

WHEREAS More than one million unborn lives are ended through abortion or abortion drugs every year in the United States;

WHEREAS Planned Parenthood, the nation’s largest abortion provider, is a recipient of significant U.S. taxpayer funding, officially for other women’s health services;

WHEREAS Undercover videos have exposed key Planned Parenthood leaders horrifically describing and negotiating the provision of aborted babies’ body parts;

THEREFORE NRB continues to denounce the evil of the abortion-on-demand culture within American society; NRB urges that the U.S. Government ensure that absolutely no federal funding facilitates abortion; and NRB calls for a complete moratorium on any taxpayer funding for Planned Parenthood in light of the atrocities exposed by recent undercover videos.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 23, 2016