



Resolution

Commending the FCC on Internet Restraint and Urging the Congress to Foster Free Expression on the Internet

-
- WHEREAS** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in issuing its Restoring Internet Freedom order, effective June 11, 2018, exercised restraint in refusing to create a heavy-handed, big government solution in protecting the vitality of the Internet, but instead opted for a light-touch approach which has, yet again, recently been affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals;
- WHEREAS** The FCC in that same order recognized the risk of suppression of legitimate free expression by “social media” platforms and other similar market-dominant internet platforms, and listed numerous examples in that order;
- WHEREAS** Congress has held hearings on the problem of viewpoint censorship by large Internet platforms and is the appropriate body to consider legislation that encourages such large platforms to aspire to free speech practices that more closely mirror the values embodied in the First Amendment as they formulate their free market policies;
- WHEREAS** NRB’s members, as Christian communicators, require access to Internet platforms in order to provide Biblical content and Gospel-oriented messages in order to compete in the “marketplace of ideas” and to pursue the Great Commission;
- NOW
THEREFORE** NRB commends the Federal Communications Commission for its restraint in avoiding a heavy-handed regulatory approach to the Internet, while also documenting the threat to free expression; NRB further urges the Congress to consider legislation that properly balances the free market power of large Internet platforms with the free expression needs of American Internet users.



Resolution

NRB Ethical Standards

- WHEREAS** NRB's Constitution recognizes the importance of "high standards" regarding "ethical practices;"
- WHEREAS** Proverbs 11:14 says, "Where there is no guidance, the people fall. But in abundance of counselors, there is victory;"
- WHEREAS** The NRB membership and board members are expected to conduct themselves in both public and private life in such a way that honors God and favorably reflects on the ministry;
- WHEREAS** Board members and membership are committed to biblical, ethical, business-like, and lawful conduct, including proper use of authority and appropriate decorum;
- WHEREAS** Board members are required to respect appropriate confidentiality in the exercise of their fiduciary duty;
- THEREFORE
BE IT
RESOLVED** That the members of the NRB, the Board and staff being unified by our relationship with Christ, will work together cooperatively with the highest ethical standards as we petition God's blessings on our organization to the end that it may flourish, grow, and ultimately further The Great Commission.



Resolution

To Extend Invitations to US Presidents to Address the Annual Convention of the NRB

-
-
- WHEREAS** National Religious Broadcasters (NRB) is a non-partisan international association of Christian communicators with member organizations and individuals throughout the United States;
- WHEREAS** NRB understands that the well-being of the Association and its member organizations is profoundly affected, and potentially adversely affected, by those in authority over us in our government and its various agencies;
- WHEREAS** NRB acknowledges the extraordinary power and authority possessed by the President of the United States over our government, as well as the profound pressures and responsibilities of the Office of the Presidency;
- WHEREAS** NRB acknowledges the Scriptural mandate to pray for those who are in authority in order that we may live peaceful and orderly lives;
- THEREFORE
BE IT
RESOLVED** That it shall be the policy of the NRB to extend an invitation to the sitting President of the United States to attend and address the membership of the NRB at its annual convention, regardless of the party affiliation of the President, in order to facilitate the mission of NRB and to foster our active and informed prayers for the President and for the Office of the Presidency.



Resolution

Urging States to Preserve and Not Threaten “Must-Carry” Rights of Local TV Stations

-
-
- WHEREAS** Some states have considered, or passed, so-called *a la carte* requirements for local cable operators and programmers;
- WHEREAS** Such *a la carte* laws could possibly threaten the rights of local television stations to have their content carried by the local cable operators or programmers under the “must-carry” provisions of the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 (“Act”);
- WHEREAS** At least one federal court is currently determining the legality of such a state law;
- WHEREAS** NRB’s membership has included local Christian television stations that depend on “must-carry” provisions of the Act so that their Christian programming is carried by the local cable companies;
- NOW
THEREFORE** NRB urges states that are considering *a la carte* cable television laws or regulations to preserve the “must-carry” status of local television stations, including Christian stations, so that local programming will not be compromised.



Resolution

Urging that Congress Pass the Local Radio Freedom Act

-
-
- WHEREAS** NRB has partnered with the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) in supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act;
- WHEREAS** Some 25 Senators and 201 members of the House of Representatives have supported the Local Radio Freedom Act;
- WHEREAS** The Local Radio Freedom Act would protect local radio stations that play music as part of their programming from having to pay new “performance” royalties that would cripple, and in some cases decimate, the ability of such radio stations to continue operations;
- WHEREAS** Among NRB’s valued members are numerous radio stations and networks that include music, including contemporary Christian, Gospel, and sacred music, in their programming day, and those stations may well face burdensome and possibly financially fatal royalty fees in the absence of passage of the Local Radio Freedom Act;
- WHEREAS** NRB urges the Congress to pass the Local Radio Freedom Act and for President Donald Trump to sign that Act into law.
- NOW
THEREFORE** NRB urges the Congress to pass the Local Radio Freedom Act and for President Donald Trump to sign that Act into law.



Resolution

Urging the Supreme Court to Uphold Religious Liberty as a Primary and not Secondary Right

-
-
- WHEREAS** The United States Supreme Court in the case of Obergefell v. Hodges required states to recognize the legality of same-sex marriages;
- WHEREAS** In that same Supreme Court decision the Court pledged to protect the religious liberty rights of those who hold traditional views of marriage and family, by stating: “Finally, it must be emphasized that religions, and those who adhere to religious doctrines, may continue to advocate with utmost, sincere conviction that, by divine precepts, same-sex marriage should not be condoned. The First Amendment ensures that religious organizations and persons are given proper protection as they seek to teach the principles that are so fulfilling and so central to their lives and faiths, and to their own deep aspirations to continue the family structure they have long revered.”
- WHEREAS** Members of NRB hold to the historic text and orthodox Christian interpretation of Scripture which compels them to preach, teach and communicate a Biblical view of marriage and family;
- WHEREAS** Lawsuits are arising across the nation where state or local laws that provide protection for “sexual orientation” and “gender identity” are colliding with the Free Exercise of Religion and Free Speech rights of Christian ministries, and Christian business people who find that aspects of such laws are a substantial burden on their rights of conscience and freedom of religion as well as freedom of speech;
- NOW
THEREFORE** NRB urges the United States Supreme Court to resolve this tension that exists between recently created laws intended to protect the categories of sexual orientation and gender identity on the one hand and the historic and fundamental rights of free exercise of religions and freedom of speech on the other hand, by determining that religious freedom and freedom of speech are primary and not subservient liberties, and in the event of a conflict between those laws and such fundamental rights, that religious liberty and freedom of speech must prevail.