



Resolution

Declaring NRB's Commitment to Defending Freedom and Opportunity on its 75th Anniversary

- WHEREAS** National Religious Broadcasters is a nonpartisan, international association of Christian communicators whose member organizations reach millions of listeners, viewers, and readers.
- WHEREAS** NRB's founding in 1944 was catalyzed by corporate censorship against evangelical Christian communicators. This suppression ensued after the mainline Federal Council of Churches, unhappy with the success of evangelical ministers who purchased time on the airwaves, persuaded the national radio networks of the day to provide limited religious time slots as a free public service and to only air those religious communicators approved by denominational councils like themselves. Banding together, NRB's members successfully combatted this discriminatory censorship.
- WHEREAS** Since its founding, NRB has devoted itself to protecting First Amendment guarantees of religious liberty, free speech, and freedom of the press, particularly as they undergird the mission of Christian communicators to freely and fully proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ on electronic media, including broadcast, cable, satellite, and Internet platforms.
- WHEREAS** In a multi-decade struggle, NRB successfully acted towards the defeat and the final removal of the damaging regulation known as the "Fairness Doctrine," which harmed all three of the First Amendment freedoms at the core of NRB's work.
- WHEREAS** These freedoms require vigilance on the part of NRB and its members, including the concerted effort of NRB to identify and oppose those legislative and regulatory proposals that threaten to erode First Amendment liberties.
- WHEREAS** NRB has also worked to ensure Christian communicators are not unfairly denied access to broadcast, video, and online platforms through unreasonable, or even unjust, music licensing rates, carriage demands, social media restrictions, or other maneuvers.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** On its 75th anniversary, it is clear that NRB's work is needed now more than ever, as major opportunities and challenges remain to achieve full access to the fast-developing worlds of electronic media in the United States and around the world.
- THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** NRB calls on the citizens of the United States and their elected leaders to work actively to ensure freedom in electronic media domestically and globally. In addition, we urge NRB members to pray and to ready themselves for struggles ahead to ensure freedom and fairness in access to all electronic media in order that the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ may be proclaimed boldly on those platforms to listeners, viewers, and readers.