Resolution
Urging the FCC and Congress to be Diligent in Enforcing Indecency Standards

WHEREAS the Federal Communications Commission has been, under the leadership of Chairman Kevin Martin, more aggressively enforcing FCC standards on broadcast indecency; and

WHEREAS lawsuits have been filed to challenge the FCC’s actions on specific indecency complaints; and in one instance, the FCC has decided to seek review by the United States Supreme Court of an adverse ruling by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals which reversed the FCC’s finding of sanctionable indecency in a broadcast on the Fox television network; and one FCC Commissioner has been quoted as indicating that the FCC may not process any further indecency complaints until the courts have resolved the pending legal issues; and

WHEREAS Senators Ted Stevens, (R-Alaska) and Daniel Inouye (D-Hawai‘i) have co-sponsored legislation called Protecting the Children from Indecent Programming Act which would regulate sex, violence and profanity on broadcast television, but that legislation has not progressed to a floor vote; Therefore be it

RESOLVED that the National Religious Broadcasters applauds the FCC for its vigorous enforcement of indecency standards, and its decision to appeal the adverse ruling of the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, but also urges the FCC to continue to process, review and, if appropriate, levy fines and sanctions for violations of indecency standards notwithstanding the pending legal challenges, and urges Senators Stevens and Inouye to take the necessary steps to force a Senate floor vote on the Protecting the Children from Indecent Programming Act.

Approved by the Board of Directors March 7, 2008