Resolution
Fostering First Amendment Freedoms

WHEREAS Scripture requires us to teach the full counsel of God, without any additions or deletions; and
WHEREAS the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution begins with “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press;” and
WHEREAS “hate crime” legislation attaches additional criminal penalties to the accuseds’ thoughts at the time of the crime and to the speech they used to voice their beliefs; and
WHEREAS alarming events in Australia, Canada, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States have challenged the ability of Christians to proclaim the full counsel of God; and
WHEREAS “hate crime” legislation has the potential to censor Christian broadcasters from declaring the full counsel of God by defining the Scriptures as “hate speech”: Therefore, be it
RESOLVED that National Religious Broadcasters redoubles its commitment to preaching the life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ and the freeing power of repentance and forgiveness for sinners; and be it further
RESOLVED that National Religious Broadcasters will be vigilant in defending its First Amendment right to publicly teach historical Christian doctrine in the United States and will oppose any version of “hate crime” legislation that might be interpreted as antithetical to such teaching; and be it further
RESOLVED that National Religious Broadcasters will look for opportunities to encourage Christian broadcasters in other nations to foster an environment in which preaching the Gospel can flourish.

Approved by the Board of Directors February 17, 2006