



Resolution

Supporting the Preservation of 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 these words: “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** so-called hate crime legislation attaches additional criminal penalties solely based on the thoughts, beliefs, or expression of an accused; and
- WHEREAS** “hate crime” legislation has the potential to censor Christian broadcasters from declaring the full counsel of God by defining certain faith-based expression as “hate speech”; and
- WHEREAS** the new leadership of the United States Congress has signaled a propensity toward enacting “hate crime” legislation during the upcoming 110th Congress: *Therefore, be it*
- RESOLVED** that the National Religious Broadcasters redouble its commitment to preach the life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ and the freeing power of repentance and forgiveness for sinners; *and be it further*
- RESOLVED** that the National Religious Broadcasters exercise vigilance in defending its First Amendment right to publicly teach historical Christian doctrine in the United States and oppose any version of “hate crime” legislation that poses a risk of censorship, discrimination, or official sanction against such teaching.