



Resolution

Urging Respect for the Freedom to Believe

- 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** Christian communicators are compelled by faith to proclaim the truth in love. However, government agents, as well as activists and influential corporate and political leaders, have worked to discriminate against Americans who adhere to biblical understandings of gender, sexuality, and marriage.
- WHEREAS** In his dissenting opinion in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, which redefined the government's understanding of marriage, Chief Justice John Roberts warned, "The majority graciously suggests that religious believers may continue to 'advocate' and 'teach' their views of marriage.... The First Amendment guarantees, however, the freedom to 'exercise' religion. Ominously, that is not a word the majority uses."
- WHEREAS** The U.S. Supreme Court is considering the case Jack Phillips - a Christian, cake artist, and owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop - who was ordered by the Colorado Civil Rights Commission to create cakes celebrating same-sex ceremonies even though they communicated a message in violation of his beliefs.
- WHEREAS** Legislation has been considered in Congress and the states to shield Americans from government agents using tax treatment, licensing, grants, and other means to coerce or discriminate against citizens who merely wish to live in light of their religious convictions about marriage and sexuality.
- THEREFORE
BE IT
RESOLVED** NRB contends that the U.S. Government must faithfully preserve, protect, and defend the U.S. Constitution's guarantee that all citizens are free to speak and free to exercise the tenets of their faith in daily life. Moreover, NRB urges Congress and state legislatures to pass laws preventing government intolerance and discrimination against those who adhere to biblical understandings of gender, sexuality, and marriage. Finally, NRB exhorts the United States to return to the truth that marriage is the sacred union between one man and one woman.