Resolution

Calling on Legislators to Oppose and Defeat the So-Called Equality Act

Whereas the so-called Equality Act, as currently written, has a number of provisions that are opposed by the Christian communicators represented by the NRB. Regardless of intent, if the law is passed as written it will most assuredly be used as a cudgel against churches, religious schools and colleges, and other religious organizations;

Whereas among the many troubling provisions in this bill would be the right for a male to use restrooms and locker rooms intended for women and young girls merely by the male expressing that he considers himself to be of the female gender; by that same method a male could compete against women in athletics, thus nullifying the protections afforded to women by Title IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;

Whereas the Equality Act also gives government broad new powers to force their viewpoints onto churches, religious schools and colleges, and religious organizations such as those represented by NRB; by labeling churches and religious schools and colleges "public accommodations", they would have to accept the government’s beliefs and mandates about sexual orientation and gender identity; additionally churches, religious schools and colleges, and religious organizations could not require employees, members or students to adhere to their tenets of faith if the tenets do not align with government policy regarding sexual orientation and gender identity;

Whereas if anyone doubts the potential detrimental effect on such religious entities, note that the Equality Act states: "The Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 shall not provide a claim concerning, or a defense to a claim under, a covered title, or provide a basis for challenging the application or enforcement of a covered title."

Therefore be it resolved that the NRB calls upon the members of the United States Congress to protect, preserve and defend the religious liberty rights of Americans guaranteed by our Constitution and Bill of Rights by opposing and defeating the so-called Equality Act.

Approved by the Board of Directors June 21, 2021
Resolution

Committing to Prayer for the Healing of our Nation

WHEREAS

This great nation that pulled together to win two world wars and overcome a great depression now finds itself more divided and fractured than at any time since the Civil War. The issues over which our people are divided include race, religion, political ideology, equal protection, and equality of opportunity.

WHEREAS

These areas of deep division manifest themselves in hatred and violence producing hurting families, hurting communities, fear, rage, and distrust.

WHEREAS

Our nation’s leaders at the federal, state and local level need to set an example and work to heal our land, not use these tragedies for political advantage. Police Department leaders need to seek methodologies to protect the public and enforce the law while minimizing the use of force. All parents must have the ability to send their children to high quality schools of their choosing, to improve their children’s future economic opportunity. This nation needs statesmen and leaders to inspire healing. But most of all, this nation needs a Savior, and His name is Jesus.

WHEREAS

The Christian broadcasters comprising the NRB, and their vast audience, are troubled by these events. They feel compassion for those who are hurting. Romans 12:15 instructs Christians to “mourn with those who mourn”. They also know the power of prayer. God states in 2 Chronicles 7:14: “if My people, who are called by My name, will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

THEREFORE

Be it Resolved that NRB calls on its members, its audience, and all Americans to commit to praying fervently and continually for peace in our cities and a healing throughout our land. Pray that God opens our minds and our hearts to see these issues through the eyes of those with whom we disagree, and help us to love our neighbors as we do ourselves. Pray that God provides comfort to the hurting, as only He can.

THEREFORE

Be it Resolved that NRB calls on its members, its audience, and all Americans to commit to promoting peace and reconciliation. Micah 6:8 states that “the Lord requires of you to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God.” The Apostle Paul said in Romans 12:18, “If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.” Lastly, Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount: “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

THEREFORE

Be it Resolved that NRB calls on its members, its audience, and all Americans to pray for the leadership of our nation at the federal, state, and local levels. May they seek God for His guidance in finding solutions to heal our land. Only He can provide the wisdom and power necessary to end the violence, hatred and division in our nation.

Approved by the Board of Directors June 21, 2021
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. In addition, NRB has always been a strong advocate for religious freedom throughout the world.

WHEREAS Unfortunately, persecution and discrimination against Christians has existed since biblical times. However, the recent pandemic has created an unprecedented opportunity for discrimination against people of faith. Government officials, activists and influential corporate and political leaders throughout the world have worked to discriminate against people of faith, in particular those who present the historic truth of Scripture.

WHEREAS Even in Western Democracies, churches have been victims of disparate treatment, facing onerous restrictions not placed on secular entities. In the United States, some states have not given churches the deference due to them by the First Amendment. Pastors have been threatened with arrest for preaching the gospel, and churches have been forcibly closed by the government. Recently in Canada, a pastor has been arrested and a church forcibly closed by the government. In Finland, a government official faces possible criminal charges for communicating her commitment to a biblical view of marriage and gender.

WHEREAS Religious discrimination against people of faith worldwide is on the increase as we see our brothers and sisters throughout the world being persecuted for their Christian faith. In particular, there is an escalation of discrimination in China, England, Finland, India, and throughout the Middle East.

THEREFORE Be it Resolved that NRB calls on government officials and leaders in the United States and throughout the world to boldly stand, speak up, and take action against persecution of Christians regardless of where it occurs.

THEREFORE Be it Resolved that NRB calls on citizens of the United States and throughout the world to contact their government officials and demand that they stand to oppose religious persecution and discrimination and do all in their power to promote religious freedom.

THEREFORE Be it Resolved that NRB calls on its members to pray and prepare for the struggles which lie ahead as they boldly proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

Approved by the Board of Directors June 21, 2021
Resolution

Opposing Passage of the “For The People Act” (H.R. 1 & S. 1)

WHEREAS National Religious Broadcasters is a non-partisan, international association of Christian communicators whose member organizations reach millions of listeners, viewers, and readers.

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 proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ freely and fully on electronic media, including broadcast, cable, satellite, and Internet platforms.

WHEREAS The U.S. House of Representatives approved final passage of its “For the People Act” (H.R. 1) in a party-line vote. The U.S. Senate is currently considering the legislation (S. 1) which would amend the Federal Elections Campaign Act of 1971.

WHEREAS NRB has long opposed amendments to the Federal Elections Campaign Act of 1971 to establish new public reporting requirements for those organizations spending $10,000 or more during an election cycle, including the release of the names and addresses of donors giving $10,000 or more to such groups.

WHEREAS NRB opposes this bill, as many organizations rely on donations in order to continue supporting family values, and there is concern that public disclosure of members and donors of organizations that support "controversial" viewpoints or candidates might subject them to threats, harassment, and reprisals.

WHEREAS If top donors fear reprisal from making a public disclosure statement for the organization, that organization will be unable to broadcast an independent expenditure or electioneering communication to support or oppose an issue or candidate for federal office.

THEREFORE Be it Resolved that NRB opposes passage of the “For the People Act” or any similar proposals.

Approved by the Board of Directors June 21, 2021
Resolution

Protect Holy Scriptures and Religious Organizations from Being Labeled as Hate Speech and Hate Groups

WHEREAS The Founding Fathers of this great nation held a reverence for religion and for the Holy Scriptures found in the Bible, and therefore biblical principles are deeply rooted in our constitution, the Bill of Rights, our judicial system; and have been mainstream in our American society for over 200 years;

WHEREAS The Christian communicators of the NRB are compelled by their faith to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the truths of the Bible, and do so in the spirit of peace, love and respect for all;

WHEREAS However, activists, some political leaders, mainstream media and others work to demonize and disparage those Americans who adhere to biblical viewpoints on gender, sexuality, and marriage; such Americans are declared haters, and organizations proclaiming the Gospel and tenets of the faith are labeled “hate groups” because of a conflict of views with other activist or advocacy groups;

WHEREAS NRB acknowledges that some groups in opposition to a biblical worldview have been given protected status by the courts based on their sexual identity / and or practices, however the NRB reminds all that the constitution also guarantees the rights of Americans to speak freely about their religion and freely exercise the tenets of their faith;

THEREFORE Be it Resolved that the NRB calls upon the Congress to defend the religious liberty rights of all Americans by prohibiting the labeling of Holy Scripture as “hate speech” and the labeling of organizations dedicated to spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the teachings of the Bible as “Hate Groups” merely because their biblical viewpoint conflicts with viewpoints of other activist or advocacy groups, and declaring such prohibited labeling as prima facie evidence of defamation.

Approved by the Board of Directors June 21, 2021
Resolution

Urging Congress to Take Action to Stop “Big Tech” Censorship of Religious and Conservative Viewpoints

WHEREAS  The right of free speech is essential to a vibrant democracy, and is appropriately declared in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution; therefore NRB has historically supported such free speech principles applying to internet communication;

WHEREAS  NRB also supports the basis and purpose of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, specifically not holding providers liable as publishers for content posted by users (with companies policing criminal activity and a few other specified prohibitions), thus allowing the internet to grow and flourish;

WHEREAS  However, the protections for “Big Tech” that are derived from Section 230 are immensely powerful and are flagrantly being abused by these companies, as they are censoring religious and conservative viewpoints, while ignoring other highly objectionable content, thus going far beyond the policing of criminal activity and other specified prohibitions and therefore becoming editors of content;

WHEREAS  NRB has attempted to engage “Big Tech” respectfully and constructively about viewpoint suppression, appealing upon them to honor First Amendment free speech principles, but to no avail; the powerful exemptions of Section 230 continue to be abused by suppressing religious and conservative viewpoints;

THEREFORE  Be it Resolved that the NRB believes it is past time for Congress to take action to halt this un-American and un-democratic censorship of religious and conservative viewpoints. While congress is urged to consider a myriad of solutions, an obvious one is to amend the law such that when a company begins to censor based on religious or political viewpoints, it becomes a publisher and forfeits the protections provided in Section 230.

Approved by the Board of Directors June 21, 2021