

SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

ACTION TO BE VOTED ON:

The Church and Society Network of the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference shall be charged, on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Annual Conference, to write a letter in support of immigration reform that will be sent to the 2008 Democratic and Republican presidential candidates as well as the Congressional representatives of the states of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. That letter will uphold the following:

- That the United Methodist Church supports comprehensive immigration reform based on securing the human rights of the sojourner.
- That the United Methodist Church is committed to support laws that affirm the dignity of sojourners, preserve their families, and acknowledge the value of their presence among us.
- That expresses the concern that no legislative action has been taken to date, and that urges each to pledge to make immigration reform a priority in the next calendar year.

RATIONALE:

Whereas the United Methodist Church upholds "the rights of the sojourner, whether immigrant, refugee, or an undocumented person, to seek a better life in the United States,"¹

Whereas the United Methodist Church denounces "the persecution of the sojourner as prejudicial and racist,"¹

Whereas the United Methodist Church calls on "the local church to seek ways to welcome, assist, and empower the sojourner,"¹

And whereas the United Methodist Church affirms "all people as equally valuable in the sight of God," and whereas we uphold human rights through "working towards societies in which each person's value is recognized, maintained, and strengthened,"²

We, the body of the church of Jesus Christ known as United Methodists, are called to advocate on behalf of legislative reform regarding the issue of social justice for the sojourner.

References:

- 38 1) Resolution 119, The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church (2004)
39 2) Paragraph 162, III. The Social Community, The Social Principles of The Book of Discipline
40 of The United Methodist Church.

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42 **PETITION COORDINATOR'S NOTE:**
43 Conference Rule Section I, C.6 requires that this Petition receive a required vote of at least 80%
44 to pass.

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47 **PETITION INFORMATION:**
48 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** Unless otherwise stated, the action of petitions will be effective July 1,
49 2008.

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51 **TERMINATION DATE:** Not applicable.

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53 **ORIGINATOR OF THE PETITION** (individual, church or organization)
54 The Church and Society Network: Advocating for Peace with Justice Committee of the Rocky
55 Mountain Annual Conference.

56 **PERSON TO PRESENT PETITION TO CONFERENCE:**

57 **Name:** Stephen Mitchell
58 **Address:** 5690 Xenon Ct, Arvada, CO 80002
59 **Phone Number:** 303.456.7153
60 **E-Mail:** smitchel@q.com

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62 **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

63 Will there be any financial impact to the Conference? The cost of letters and mailing will derive
64 from the general budget of the Church and Society Network.

65 If YES , fill in appropriate information below.

66 (To be completed by Originator of Petition)

67 Cost ~ \$12.00 Period (Not to exceed one year.)

68 Funds provided by Annual Conference/Agency: Church and Society Network

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