

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REVIEW OF RLUIPA

WHEREAS, the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Person Act (**RLUIPA**) was enacted in 2001 following unanimous approval by both houses of Congress; and

WHEREAS, the land use provisions of the Act have greatly helped religious assemblies, schools, and institutions locate, build, expand or convert from other uses buildings all over America; and

WHEREAS, such help has benefited all religious groups by providing relief from zoning and land use laws which unfairly or arbitrarily excluded or restricted religious land uses; and

WHEREAS, RLUIPA has been of particular help to minority, immigrant, and fast growing religious assemblies; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of RLUIPA has not created the land use or zoning chaos that some opponents had feared, but has, in fact, significantly benefited many municipalities through enhanced livability, diversity, stability and voluntary services; and

WHEREAS, RLUIPA has been law for about twenty (20) years enabling those affected to better understand its strengths, weaknesses and judicial interpretations; and

WHEREAS, the needs of religious land users and patterns of their use are always changing;

NOW, THEREFORE, this Board Resolves that a deep and thorough review of RLUIPA should be undertaken by Congress and the 2019 Recommended Amendments to the Land Use Section should be carefully considered as a part of that review.

Furthermore, the Executive Director is instructed:

1. To send the Congressmen and Senators of the States of _____ copies of this Resolution requesting they review the 2019 Recommended Amendments and ask if they will sponsor, co-sponsor or support the Recommended Amendments —

as they may be debated, refined or improved — or whether they will oppose the consideration of the Recommended Amendments;

2. To post on our website and publicize in our newsletter the names and party affiliations of all who support a legislative review of RLUIPA so that supporters of our organization may reward them with votes and also to list by names and party affiliation those who fail (explicitly or by non-response) to indicate support of such legislative review;

3. To advise this Board quarterly of actions taken by our representatives to introduce, study, debate, refine and/or enact amendments to RLUIPA;

4. To continue such listing of those supporting of review and to republish those lists to supporters of our organization prior to relevant elections;

5. To contact the directors and leaders of other religious organizations requesting they adopt resolutions similar to this one; (Members of this Board are also encouraged to forward this resolution to other religious organization leaders for adoption.)

6. To take any other actions the Executive Director deems appropriate to spur consideration of the 2019 Recommended Amendments or other improvements to RLUIPA including joining with other religious leaders in committees and for this common cause, attempting always to keep the Amendment efforts harmonious and bi-partisan.

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The above motion was duly adopted by the Directors at a regularly scheduled meeting on the _____ day of _____ by a vote of _____ in favor and _____ opposed.

Board Secretary