

1992

RESOLUTION: IN SUPPORT OF THE RIGHTS OF GOD'S CHILDREN

WHEREAS, "Jesus ... said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the realm of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the realm of God as a little child will never enter it.' Then he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them" (Mark 10:14-16); and

WHEREAS, The Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ has passed seven resolutions directly supporting the rights of children since 1960; and

WHEREAS, The United States Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect has concluded that child abuse and neglect in the United States now represents a NATIONAL EMERGENCY; and

WHEREAS, The Connecticut-based National Task Force for Children's Constitutional Rights is seeking to explore the feasibility of amending the U.S. Constitution to protect and preserve American children;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the delegates to the 125th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, call for a study which would include exploring the feasibility of an amendment to the United States Constitution to establish the rights of children, as well as examining other vehicles which might implement the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge the Department of Church in Society of the Connecticut Conference to:

- (a) Establish a committee to conduct the aforementioned study; and
- (b) Inform the churches of the Connecticut Conference, through Conference publications, of the progress of the study; and
- (c) Continue to alert its Policy Advocacy Network of any proposed legislation before the Connecticut General Assembly and the United States Congress that would further the health and well-being of all of God's children; and
- (d) Monitor the work of the National Task Force for Children's Constitutional Rights; and
- (e) Make a report of its study to the delegates to the 126th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is our will that this resolution be modified according to proper form to be submitted to General Synod XIX for consideration.