

1978

RESOLUTION: WELFARE - BENEFITS VS NEEDS

WHEREAS last year's resolution on Welfare Payments requested AFDC payments be "raised to current consumer price index," and the Connecticut General Assembly voted a 10 percent increase, in AFDC benefits, General Assistance Program and Aid to Elderly, Blind and Disabled; and

WHEREAS with the exception of some fuel benefits for the working poor, all state emergency programs have been discontinued; no other emergency programs have been allocated for the elderly, welfare recipients and dependent children; and

WHEREAS the cost of utilities, especially fuel, far exceeds the allotment given to welfare recipients; and

WHEREAS many Connecticut residents who are unable to work, including over 100,000 children, are in serious danger of malnutrition and deprivation of necessities; and

WHEREAS the private sector will, therefore, have its resources strained in responding to this need;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ recommend that all churches work with their state legislators to encourage the state to comply with the intent of Connecticut law - to furnish "support at a reasonable standard of health and decency." (CT. Gen. Stat. Section 172a) This must be accomplished by an increase in welfare grants for children, the elderly and the disabled to bring them up at least to the current poverty level. Furthermore, welfare benefits must be increased regularly in accordance with the current Federal regional consumer price index.