AMERICAN BAPTIST RESOLUTION ON MIGRATORY LABOR

Migratory labor problems of low wages, no benefits, substandard housing, unsafe travel and work conditions (including the presence of pesticides in the fields, water, and air), inaccessible medical services, resistance to organizing, inconsistent educational opportunities, and inadequate welfare assistance, continue to be acute. What was a problem for coastal states, is now a national concern.

We recommend that our constituents obtain information on this subject from regional and national denominational and inter-denominational offices, as well as local, state, and federal governmental and voluntary agencies such as the Department of Labor and National Farmworkers Ministry. We further urge obtaining support for bringing change in public attitudes toward migrant labor issues and problems, and urge support for obtaining legislation to correct inequities that deny dignity and quality of life for migrant workers.

Adopted as an American Baptist Convention Resolution - 1957 Affirmed as an American Baptist Churches Resolution -September 1981

Modified by the Executive Committee of the General Board - March 1992

(General Board Reference # - 8078:9/81)

POLICY BASE

American Baptist Policy Statement on Human Rights

As American Baptists we declare the following rights to be basic human rights, and we will support programs and measures to assure these rights:

2. The right to the basic necessities of food, shelter, clothing, and health care;

8. The right to develop skills and abilities, to utilize these in economic, political, social, intellectual, and religious institutions, and to receive a just return for one's labor;