

RESOLUTION ON TEXTBOOK CENSORSHIP

Whereas, the Presbyterian Church in America recognizes our debt of gratitude to our forebearers who came to America seeking religious freedom; and

Whereas, Judeo-Christian values had a vital role in the founding of America, the formation of its institutions, and the making of its national character; and

Whereas, Judeo-Christian values are the source and support of our rights and freedoms as evidenced in the words of our Declaration of Independence that "all men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;" and

Whereas, the U. S. Supreme Court requires neutrality of religion in the public schools, not forbidding the teachings of religion's role in history but forbidding the teaching of tenets of faith; and

Whereas, the Vitz Study completed for the U. S. Department of Education, which examined 90 textbooks used in 72 percent of the classes of our public schools (and corroborated by other researchers), found the virtual total censorship of the existence, history, contributions, and current role of the Judeo-Christian heritage from our textbooks; and

Whereas, the omission of references in textbooks to the existence, contributions, and current role of the Judeo-Christian heritage in our society represents, according to the Vitz Study, "a systematic denial of the history, heritage, beliefs, and values of a very large segment of the American People" having the Judeo-Christian heritage; and, the elimination of these references from textbooks may contribute to the hardening of fertile young minds to the receipt of the Gospel and may minimize to them their nation's religious heritage and their own religious commitment.

Be it therefore resolved, that the Presbyterian Church in America pray diligently for those who seek the correction of the censored history of America's development as presented in textbooks; and

Be it further resolved, that we urge all our members and other Christians to oppose censorship of the Judeo-Christian heritage as a historical fact from our public school textbooks; and

Be it finally resolved, that we urge all our members and other Christians to encourage textbook selection committees working with city, county, and state boards of education not to accept textbooks that have censored the Judeo-Christian heritage.

Adopted

5. That the 15th GA approve the proposed budget of Mission to North America (p. 260) for fiscal year (FY) 1988 of \$2,149,343 with a GA ASKINGS of \$2,144,343 and a growth budget of \$792, 309. *Adopted*
6. That the 15th GA approve the proposed budget of the PCA Foundation (p. 287) for FY 1988 of \$147,033. *Adopted*
7. That the 15th GA approve the proposed budget of the Investor's Fund for Building & Development (p. 286) for FY 1988 of \$188,200. *Adopted*
8. That the 15th GA approve the proposed budget of Ridge Haven Conference Center (p. 288) for FY 1988 of \$311,055 with a GA ASKINGS of \$253,055. *Adopted*
9. That the 15th GA approve the proposed budget of Covenant Theological Seminary (p. 281) for FY 1988 of \$1,846,615 with a GA ASKINGS of \$1,071,000. *Adopted*