

NOT ADOPTED

No. 8924

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS
AND RESPECT FOR LAW**

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WHEREAS, the rights and freedoms of citizens of the United States and Canada are among the most generous and liberal in all the world; and

WHEREAS, freedom of worship is among our most precious rights guaranteed by law; and

WHEREAS, our churches and religious institutions and their assemblies enjoy privileges and protections virtually unknown in many parts of the world; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of these [Delete: *Western*] democratic rights and freedoms depends upon respect for duly enacted laws and the observance of these laws; and

WHEREAS, the democratic process provides lawful means through which those who wish to influence legislation and government policy may work for change and improvement; and

WHEREAS, adoption by church bodies and assemblies of resolutions which conflict with duly constituted laws [Delete: *can only serve to*] may undermine respect for the rule of law upon which our freedoms are based and upon which their continuation depends; and

[Delete: *WHEREAS, the prophetic role has never been successfully institutionalized but has always been truly fulfilled only through individual prophets who made their personal witness and paid the price of that witness;*]

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) meeting July 28-August 2, 1989, in Indianapolis, Indiana, **acknowledging the sovereignty of God to whom unqualified obedience is the first obligation of Christians**, affirm appreciation and support for our freedoms established by law, particularly religious liberty, and, while affirming the right of dissent, encourage members and [Delete: *agencies*] **general units, regions, institutions and organizations** to work in accord with established national, provincial, state and local laws when seeking changes and improvements in legislation and government policy.

Grafton Christian Church
Grafton, Virginia

The General Board recommends that the General Assembly ADOPT
Resolution 8924 as amended.. (Debate time 12 minutes)
