

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PRACTICE OF RELIGIOUS PROSELYTIZING AT TAXPAYER FUNDED MEETINGS

Whereas we support the First Amendment of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to free speech, and prohibits Government from preferring or elevating one religion over another. We also recognize the recent Supreme Court ruling which supports invocations at some public meetings but which does not sanction prayer or other religious expression at public school board meetings or school gatherings.

Whereas the Founders included the *Establishment Clause* to ensure the separation of church and state, and that evangelizing and proselytizing on behalf of a specific religion at publicly funded meetings violates the Constitution of the United States;

Whereas at all levels of government supported meetings or gatherings, such evangelizing and proselytizing may result in Federal sanctions,

Therefore Be it Resolved that we expect our School Board and other local government agencies to observe religious neutrality, and strongly urge all of our elected officials to comply with the Constitution of the United States, U.S. Supreme Court rulings regarding separation of church and state.

Therefore Be it Further Resolved that the San Bernardino County Democratic Party shall inform our local elected officials and Democratic members of the California Legislature of this position, and requests the offices of the California Attorney General and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction inform local school boards of their obligations in upholding the law in this matter.

Submitted by: CHINO VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Adopted by the San Bernardino County Democratic Party April 23, 2015