

CONSENT CALENDAR SR 01

2015 OREGON-IDAHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1 **TITLE: BAN ON TORTURE (2008, 2011)**

2 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: MFSA, Peace with Justice**

3 **SPOKESPERSON: Claudia Roberts**

4 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 5328 NE 40th Ave, Portland, OR 97211**

5 **SPOKESPERSON'S E-MAIL: clarobb@juno.com**

6 **SPOKESPERSON'S TELEPHONE: 503-284-9182**

7 **This petition is a renewal of an existing Standing Resolution (no revisions);**

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9 **LEGISLATIVE ASSMEBLY RECOMMENDATION: YES 24, NO 0, ABSTAIN 0**

11 **Text of the Standing Resolution as it would appear in the Conference Journal:**

12 We support a ban on torture in any form by the U.S. government, its agencies, agents,
13 military or the use of non-U.S. government entities to torture on its behalf.
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16 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

17 **What will this action accomplish?**

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19 This action will affirm that the Oregon-Idaho Conference of the United Methodist Church formally supports the
20 Social Principles ¶164, A. which states

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22 “The mistreatment or torture, and other cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment or punishment of persons
23 by governments for any purpose violates Christian teaching and must be condemned and/ or opposed by
24 Christians and churches wherever and whenever it occurs.”

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26 Christie, Reverend Neal; Childers, Reverend Doctor Clayton (2013-04-01). Social Principles of the United
27 Methodist Church 2013-2016

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29 **Why is it important?**

30 The New York Times listed the release of the CIA special report on the use of torture by our military and by
31 others acting as agents of the military is one of the top stories of 2014. This confession made long after the
32 actions that were denied at the time serve to show that there are were apparently circumstances where some
33 leaders fill torture is justified. As Christians and Methodists, we avow that Jesus told us to “love our neighbor
34 as our self” Mark12:31 and even to “Love our enemies.” Luke 17:27. These teachings preclude using torture
35 under any circumstances.

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38 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**

39 This resolution will be printed in the journal and will be available to anyone who wants to know our
40 conference’s opinion regarding torture.
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42 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**

43 No additional cost except for the cost of compiling and publishing the journal.
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