

CONSENT CALENDAR SR 03

2015 OREGON-IDAHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

1 **TITLE: EMBRACING THE IMMIGRANT (2012)**

2 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Oregon-Idaho Chapter of MFSA, OR-ID UMC Peace**
3 **with Justice**

4 **SPOKESPERSON: Claudia Roberts**

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

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

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

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

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10 **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATIONS: YES 24, NO 0, ABSTAIN 0**
11

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13 **Text of the Standing Resolution as it would appear in the Conference Journal:**
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15 When immigrants live in your land with you, you must not cheat them. Any immigrant who lives with
16 you must be treated as if they were one of your citizens. You must love them as yourself, because
17 you were immigrants in the land of Egypt; I am the LORD your God. Lev.19: 33-34. (Common English
18 Version)

19 Rights of Immigrants – We recognize, embrace, and affirm all persons, regardless of country of origin,
20 as members of the family of God. We affirm the right of all persons to equal opportunities for
21 employment, access to housing, health care, education, and freedom from social discrimination. We
22 urge the Church and society to recognize the gifts, contributions, and struggles of those who are
23 immigrants and to advocate for justice for all. Social Principles of The United Methodist Church 2013-
24 2016. ¶ 162.

25 We propose that the Oregon-Idaho Conference and its congregations intentionally seek relationships
26 with and stand in solidarity with immigrant sisters and brothers in our midst; call upon local, state,
27 and federal government bodies to enact comprehensive immigration reform so policies protect the
28 rights and well-being of all immigrants; and promote educational resources in local churches to
29 empower members to advocate for the same.
30

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

31
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33 **What will this action accomplish?**

34 As a conference we have gone on record as recognizing the demands of our faith as Christians to
35 welcome the stranger and treat them as one of our own. The renewal of this resolution
36 acknowledges that we understand our responsibility to support immigrants.
37

38 **Why is it important?**

39 As a nation, we are still awaiting comprehensive immigration reform that would recognize the
40 contributions made by immigrants living in our midst and offer them an opportunity to improve the
41 lives of their families. The Council of Bishops wrote a letter calling for immigration reform that
42 would:

- 43 1) Create a pathway to citizenship
44 2) Support family integration and unity

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- 1 3) Protect human rights and workers' rights.
- 2 4) Provide a humane enforcement strategy
- 3 5) Addresses the root causes of migration
- 4
- 5 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**
- 6 All clergy and laity are urged to engage in prayer, support and advocacy for the immigrant neighbors in their
- 7 communities.
- 8 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**
- 9 No additional cost than the cost of including it in the journal.
- 10