Capital Punishment

WHEREAS in many states in the United States considerable pressure is being exerted upon legislators to abolish capital punishment; and

WHEREAS the appeals to abolish capital punishment are generally predicated upon the unwarranted assumptions that all punishment is designed either to rehabilitate criminals or deter them from acts of crime, thereby ignoring the primary concern of law which is justice; and

WHEREAS we believe that a soft attitude toward crime is a weakening of the moral foundations of government; and

WHEREAS we believe that the Bible commits to the state the right and the responsibility to enforce the ultimate penalty;

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches protest all efforts to persuade state legislatures to abolish capital punishment and urge the people in the churches of the Association to resist all such efforts in their own particular states.

May 13–17, 1963 Omaha, Nebraska