

Resolution on the Centennial Anniversary of the SBC Cooperative Program

WHEREAS, In 2025 Southern Baptists will celebrate the centennial anniversary of our Cooperative Program; and

WHEREAS, Upon the establishment of the Cooperative Program, M.E. Dodd, Chairman of the Commission on the Future Program, exhorted Southern Baptists toward “a unity of purpose and consecration never known before;” and

WHEREAS, Since 1925 the Cooperative Program has provided a comprehensive funding mechanism for like-minded Baptist churches to support missions in all the world, all the time, at the same time (Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8); and

WHEREAS, The biblical doctrine of cooperation compels us to work together and thereby effect a greater reward for our efforts (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12); and

WHEREAS, During these past 100 years, Maryland and Delaware Baptists have contributed \$173 million through the Cooperative Program to fund missionaries, disaster relief efforts, church planting, church revitalization, chaplaincies, evangelistic initiatives, discipleship strategies, pastor care, Christian education, Baptist communications, human needs ministries, and more; and

WHEREAS, Maryland and Delaware Baptists have made a great commitment to our missionaries, both at home and abroad, and to our larger family of Baptist workers whose Great Commission efforts are supported and sustained through Cooperative Program giving; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 1 of our Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware Constitution states, “This Convention approves the Cooperative Program of Southern Baptists as its plan of world mission work and appeals to the churches to support it and to recognize the wisdom and right of this Convention to divide equitably the Cooperative Program receipts;” therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the annual meeting of the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware meeting in Ocean City, MD, November 10-11, 2024, affirm the Cooperative Program as our primary method of funding our Great Commission cooperation at home and abroad; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we ascribe thanksgiving and glory to God for blessing the partnership in the gospel we have known through Cooperative Program giving for one hundred years (Philippians 1:3-5); and be it further

RESOLVED, That we are grateful for the churches that give faithfully and sacrificially through the Cooperative Program and for all who who openly promote, support, and commit to the Cooperative Program among our family of churches, associations, and Ministry Partners; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we commit ourselves to the celebration and promotion of the Cooperative Program within our churches, associations, and entities in its one-hundredth year.