



## **RESOLUTION UPHOLDING THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE RESPONSE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND THE CANCEL CULTURE MOVEMENT**

WHEREAS, The First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America covers five essential areas of liberty stating that, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances”;

WHEREAS, In the wake of the Chinese Coronavirus outbreak and the social upheaval of the day, threats to the First Amendment are escalating:

- (1) Religious liberties have been curtailed; some in power have infringed upon the right to freely exercise religion by banning large gatherings for communal worship while permitting such gatherings for leisure activities and riots;
- (2) Freedom of speech is trampled on daily with the notions of “political correctness,” the plan to eliminate so-called “hate speech,” and the promotion of a “cancel culture,” which has grown into erasing of history, encouraging lawlessness, muting citizens, and violating free exchange of ideas, thoughts, and speech;
- (3) Freedom of the press is being squelched as the major networks are strangling news not conforming with their agendas, corporations are regulating internet controls and setting limitations against conservative thought, which further divides people and restricts speech on private accounts on the various internet modalities;
- (4) The right of the people to peaceably assemble has been infringed, abused, and denied; from church services to entertainment, to sports and even to the education of our children; free assembly has been traded for “masked social distancing,” yet opportunistic violent protestors and casino-goers are still allowed the right to assemble; and
- (5) The American people should petition the government for a redress of grievances because a government for the people and by the people must equally extend Constitutional rights to all its people; and

WHEREAS, Benjamin Franklin once said, “Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety”; therefore, be it

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*RESOLVED*, That the Republican National Committee (RNC) calls on the American people to contact their legislators, and all elected officials, to demand that they stand for the right of all to freely exercise religion, for true freedom of thought in public universities and in governmental hiring, for a free and open press, and for peaceful and consistently COVID-safe assembly;

*RESOLVED*, That the RNC calls on all government leaders to use wise restraint and not needlessly limit freedoms in the panic of this pandemic;

*RESOLVED*, That the RNC knows that the American people are tough, resilient, and have weathered many storms in the past; and, with hope in the grace of God can survive, overcome, and thrive despite these current tempests; and

*RESOLVED*, That the RNC's first priority in 2020 is to re-elect President Donald Trump to his second full term as President of the United States of America because he has kept his promises and will continue to defend our Constitution and First Amendment rights.