



**Resolution on Ministerial/Facility Protection Against Forced  
Officiating/Hosting of Same-Sex Marriages adopted by the  
96<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Church of God  
June 26, 2014**

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**WHEREAS**, the ultimate authority for the Church of God movement (Anderson) is biblical revelation; and

**WHEREAS**, biblical revelation is understood by this movement to teach the appropriateness of a sexual relationship only between a man and a woman within the bonds of marriage (General Assembly resolution of June, 1993); and

**WHEREAS**, biblical revelation is understood by this movement to teach that marriage is the sacred union of one woman and one man (General Assembly resolution of June, 2004); and

**WHEREAS**, the most recent edition (2011) of the *Credentials Manual* for Church of God ministers/chaplains in North America states in section 2.13 that “those to whom vocational credentialing is granted are expected to hold persuasions that are in general agreement with the teaching tradition of the Church of God movement”; and

**WHEREAS**, current legal trends and changing social practices threaten to bring pressure on pastors/chaplains of the Church of God to officiate at "marriage" ceremonies that are contrary to biblical revelation and thus to Church of God beliefs and expectations of its credentialed ministers/chaplains; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the General Assembly, convened in June, 2014, hereby reaffirms its traditional understandings of and sincerely-held religious beliefs about sexuality, marriage, and its related expectation of appropriate pastor/chaplain practice in these regards; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the General Assembly recommend that all national and local entities of the Church of God (Anderson) consider establishing policies that restrict the use of their facilities from same-sex marriages.