

RESOLUTION 2019 - 14

RESOLUTION TO THE 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE SESSION

**Relating to government and corporate interests violating Native American land rights
Presented by the EPA Conference Committee on Native American Ministries**

Whereas, the UMC, as the body of Christ, is committed to the Biblical mandate to “do justly and love mercy” and to the *Book of Discipline*’s affirmation of the sacred worth of 8 all persons,

WHEREAS, the greatest challenge facing Native Americans today is invisibility, as identified in the recent report *Reclaiming Native Truth*, researched by First Nations Development Institute and Echo Hawk Consulting;

WHEREAS, Standing Rock is no longer front page news BUT violations of laws protecting the air, water and soil continue in many places;

WHEREAS, the government supports multinational corporations to enrich themselves instead of putting the best interests of the citizens first;

WHEREAS, pipelines and mining are damaging the environment with unreported spills and methane flaring, and are creating sinkholes and damaging roads, affecting the health and safety of the communities;

WHEREAS, the trust status of Indian lands makes them most susceptible to having their land seized via executive order and without consultation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, as the Committee on Native American Ministries, strongly request that the EPA Conference as the body of Christ use its voice and influence to support organizations in the UMC such as Native American Comprehensive Plan (NACP) as well as the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI);

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we strongly request that EPA conference also use its voice and influence to persuade congressional legislators to honor the land rights spelled out in multiple treaties between NA tribes and the U. S. government;

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that, being called to be faithful to the 38 Biblical mandate to advocate for those whose voice is not heard in the halls of power, we ask that a copy of this resolution signed by the Bishop, the Director of Connectional Ministries and the co-chairs of the Committee on Native American Ministries, be sent to the White House, the Majority and Minority Leaders of both the U. S. Senate and House of Representatives, and the Representatives of the districts within the boundaries of EPA Conference.

Person responsible for presenting this resolution: Verna Colliver