## **Patriotism**

WHEREAS this nation in the providence of God has recognized in its Constitution and Bill of Rights the dignity and worth of human responsibility and guaranteed to its citizens the privileges of responsible freedom; and

WHEREAS this nation has recognized also the necessity of governmental authority and the existence of laws to benefit its citizens and keep the peace; and

WHEREAS this nation does not coerce the consciences of its citizens in religious beliefs and in no way abridges the free exercise of religious practices; and

WHEREAS subversives in this nation benefit from its freedoms but violate the authority and laws of its government and seek its overthrow; and

WHEREAS love of a citizen's land and loyalty to its government do not require that the nation be faultless and without need of orderly improvements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, in Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado, June 22–26, 1970, express to their fellow citizens of the United States of America their heartfelt sense of patriotism and pledge to one another their efforts toward the preservation of this nation and its present form of government.

Denver, Colorado June 22-26, 1970