

Clark Williamson, Indianapolis, IN

No. 9314

(Sense-of-the-Assembly Resolution)

CONCERNING RU 486

ADOPTED by the General Assembly

WHEREAS, RU 486 and similar anti-progesterone drugs have shown promise as an enhancement for labor and delivery (reducing the frequency of Caesarean sections), and as an effective therapy for several health conditions for which men, women, or both, are at risk, including prostate cancer, uterine cancer, breast cancer, meningiomas (potentially fatal brain tumors), Cushings Disease (an endocrine disorder), endometriosis (a hormone-related disease which is the third leading cause preventing conception), fibrocystic disease (a noncancerous condition of the breast which may predispose toward and/or obscure detection of breast cancer), adult-onset diabetes, severe hypertension, glaucoma, and infertility; and

WHEREAS, this medication is readily accessible in other countries, including France, Great Britain, and China, because of its already demonstrated value as a safe and noninvasive abortifacient; and

WHEREAS, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S. and Canada has affirmed and reaffirmed its commitment to the sanctity of life, which is already being saved by this drug that has the potential for even greater preservation of life, and to responsible and free reproductive choice, without government interference, and

WHEREAS, we have the opportunity to stand with a variety of other groups advocating accessibility and continuing testing for other potential uses of anti-progesterones, including groups for health care professions (such as the American Medical Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organization, the Endocrine Society, the National Cushings Association, and the Endometriosis Alliance of Greater New York), and groups of other concerned professionals (such as the American Association of University Professors and the Feminist Majority Foundation), as well as various religious groups, and

WHEREAS, in this historic General Assembly, meeting jointly with the United Church of Christ (UCC), we have the opportunity to stand again in covenant partnership through concurrence with the advocacy of this drug by the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries of the UCC;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, July 15-20, 1993,

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Urge the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Canadian Director General of Drugs Directorate to take immediate steps to establish the safety and effectiveness of RU 486 and other anti-progesterone drugs so that they may become readily accessible to the citizens of the U.S. and Canada; and

Encourage the pharmaceutical industry and the health community, including the National Institutes of Health, and the Canadian Health Protection Branch of Health and Welfare Canada to engage in aggressive research and development of this drug as a potential effective treatment for a number of diseases and ailments.

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