

ITEM B.114
FOR ACTION

<i>FOR PRESBYTERIAN MISSION AGENCY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE USE ONLY</i>			
	A. Finance		E. Corporate Property, Legal, Finance
X	B. Justice		F. PC(USA), A Corporation
	C. Leadership		G. Audit
	D. Worshiping Communities		H. Executive Committee
			J. Board Nominating & Governance Subcommittee
			P. Plenary

Subject: Campaign for Fair Food and the Consumer Boycott of The Wendy's Company

Recommendation:

That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board approve:

- 1. The Presbyterian Hunger Program's (PHP) ongoing support for the Campaign for Fair Food and the consumer boycott of The Wendy's Company until they sign a Fair Food agreement with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers.**
- 2. Direct the Presbyterian Mission Agency to encourage members of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to join the boycott.**

Background:

The 217th General Assembly in 2006 approved a Resolution in Support of Ongoing Partnership Work with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and the Campaign for Fair Food <http://bit.ly/2006CIWresolution>, knowing that there might again come a time when the voice of the church could make a significant difference if it had the capacity to act on a call to use "consumer action (e.g. boycotts and public protests)" as a means of advocacy for justice. The recommendations from the 2017th General Assembly (2006) are as follows:

1. Reaffirm the use of consumer action (e.g. boycotts and public protest) in the struggle for economic justice.
2. Acknowledge that such action may be called for in the ongoing Campaign for Fair Food.
3. Authorize the General Assembly Council to approve Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) participation in such consumer actions if it is taken in accord with existing Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) criteria and in concert with our partners in the Alliance for Fair Food.

The CIW has engaged with The Wendy's Company for a decade without progress. Ten years ago the CIW asked Wendy's to negotiate with them. For the past three years CIW has been publicly campaigning to encourage Wendy's to sign a Fair Food agreement. Wendy's has not agreed and now sources its tomatoes in Mexico, where working conditions are far worse. The CIW has determined that a national boycott of Wendy's is the next step. This boycott, only the second one ever called in the Campaign's history, was announced in March of 2016.

A Presbyterian Mission Agency Board decision to affirm CIW in its call for a boycott just weeks before Wendy's Annual General Meeting on May 26, 2016, could add significant pressure on the company to

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negotiate and sign a Fair Food agreement. These agreements, already signed with fourteen other corporations, have demonstrated their powerful impact in improving the conditions and wages of farmworkers.

Communications and mobilization of Presbyterians will be coordinated by the Presbyterian Hunger Program, which has facilitated the engagement of Presbyterians since the PC(USA)'s endorsement of the Taco Bell boycott in 2002.