

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE ACTION OF THE 2021
NORTHERN ILLINIOS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

REAFFIRMATION OF RECONCILIATION AND AFFIRMATION OF INCLUSION OF ALL PERSONS

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ACTION:

The Northern Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church (the “NIC”) reaffirms its sacred status as a Reconciling Conference. As such, the NIC affirms the full and unlimited participation of all persons regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation, including without limiting the generality of this affirmation, LBGTQIA+ persons, in the life of this Annual Conference.

RATIONALE:

On June 13, 1986, the NIC adopted Resolution 736 declaring itself to be a Reconciling Conference. The NIC further affirmed the full participation of homosexuals in the life of the Annual Conference. The NIC was the first annual conference in the United Methodist Church to so declare itself. With the passage of time since 1986, the uncertainties throughout the United Methodist Church concerning homosexuality that prompted the NIC to adopt Resolution 736 have expanded to include the gender identity and sexual orientation of persons other than homosexuals. In these circumstances, it is imperative for the NIC to reaffirm itself to be a Reconciling Conference and further affirm the sacred worth of **ALL PERSONS** and their full inclusion and participation in the life of this Annual Conference in accordance with the best Wesleyan traditions of grace and inclusion.