

A RESOLUTION FROM DR. LEWIS I. MADDOCKS

carried

WHEREAS, The Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ adopted the following statement in 1958: " We continue to urge the basic revision of our immigration law. The present quota system reflects the belief that certain races are superior to certain other races and judges an individual by his birthplace rather than on the basis of merit. This is both a moral affront to other peoples and a denial of basic Christian and American conceptions."

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the delegates of the Central Atlantic Conference that we urge the members of our churches to support Congressional elimination of the national origins quota system in our present immigration policy.

immigration quotas:

82% - northern & western Europe

18% - southern Europe

*equal opportunity to be brought in line with
immigration act.*

COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION AND EDUCATION

1. BE IT RESOLVED that we the delegates of the Central Atlantic Conference here assembled do urge our churches and delegates to work for the enactment of state-wide fair housing laws.

2. BE IT RESOLVED that we the delegates of the Central Atlantic Conference here assembled do express our opposition to Senate Bill S.J.-2 (Dirksen Amendment) relating to legislative re-apportionment.

3. Immigration law

~~Find~~

STATE REPORT OF VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

The bill which passed the Senate (S.1564) May 26 is a good bill but not as broad as the one reported out of the House Judiciary Committee (H.R. 6400).

The Senate Bill contains the following major provisions:

In states and counties with a 20 per cent non-white population and where less than 50 percent of the voting age population was registered or voted in the 1964 election and which require literacy tests for voting shall have those tests suspended and federal examiners appointed to register all Negroes who apply.

The Attorney General is authorized to seek in any federal court a finding of voter discrimination and thus obtain an order for the suspension of literacy tests and the appointment of federal examiners.

The Attorney General may go into any federal court to test the constitutionality of poll taxes required as a condition for voting.

Federal registration examiners are authorized for any voting district in which less than 25 per cent of the non-whites are registered.

A method is provided whereby states and voting districts covered by the bill may exempt themselves by showing that they have not discriminated against applicants seeking to register and vote.

Counties are exempted from coverage of the bill where 50 per cent of the Negro voters are registered and where there is no discrimination in the election process.

Heavy penalties are provided for false registration, election fraud, intimidation of voters and interference with any of the rights guaranteed in the bill.

The House bill, which is now before the Rules Committee, contains the outright ban on payment of poll taxes as a precondition for voting. The attempt to include this ban in the Senate bill was defeated. The Senate, instead, included a declaration that the poll tax has been used to deny and abridge the right to vote in certain states and also authorizes the Attorney General to bring suit "forthwith" to test the constitutionality of the poll tax in the four states which require its payment as a condition for voting.

Other provisions in the House bill (as outlined by the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights):

It is stronger than the Senate bill in providing for direct access to federal examiners;

It makes it harder for states to obtain exemption from the Act by requiring, in effect, a five year period of good behavior;

It protects not only voting registrants but also civil rights workers who urge and aid registration;

It omits the provision in the Senate bill that grants exemption to states and counties with non-white population of less than 20 per cent;

It covers the election of party officers;

It permits federal examiners to be drawn from anywhere in the country, unlike the Senate bill which would tend to require examiners to be residents of the state to which they are assigned;

It would protect all registered voters from intimidation, not only newly registered ones.

Attention will be focused on the House Rules Committee for the next two or three weeks. It is important for all supporters of an effective voting rights bill to write and wire members of the Rules Committee urging them to act quickly on the bill. They can be reached in care of the Capitol, Washington 25, D. C.

Members of the House Rules Committee:

Democrats

Republicans

Howard W. Smith, (Va.) - Chmn.
William M. Colmer (Miss.)
Ray J. Madden (Ind.)
James J. Delaney (N.Y.)
James W. Trimble (Ark.)
• Richard Bolling (Mo.)
Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. (Mass.)
B. F. Sisk (Calif.)
John Young (Texas)
Claude Pepper (Fla.)

Clarence J. Brown (Ohio)
H. Allen Smith (Calif.)
John B. Anderson (Ill.)
Dave Martin (Nebr.)
James H. Quillen (Tenn.)

It is not too early to urge your Congressman to support the bill which the House Judiciary Committee has reported.

6/4/65

L.I. Maddocks

110 Maryland Ave., N. E.

Washington, D. C.

COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION AND EDUCATION

1. BE IT RESOLVED that we the delegates of the Central Atlantic Conference here assembled do urge our churches and delegates to work for the enactment of state-wide fair housing laws.

2. BE IT RESOLVED that we the delegates of the Central Atlantic Conference here assembled do express our opposition to Senate Bill S.J.-2 (Dirksen Amendment) relating to legislative re-apportionment.