

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Sustaining President Barack Obama, who serves as head of state and head of government of the United States of America as well as the Commander-in-Chief of armed forces for a second term.

SUBMITTED TO: The African Methodist Episcopal Church

SUBMITTED BY: Bishop T. Larry Kirkland, Presiding Prelate 5th Episcopal District and Chair of the General Board of the African Methodist Episcopal Church
Episcopal Supervisor Mary Kirkland,
Presiding Elder Donna Roberson, Midwest North District,
Presiding Elder Steven Cousin, Midwest South District,
Midwest Annual Conference Clergy and Laity

THE 4TH SESSION OF THE MIDWEST ANNUAL CONFERENCE,

ENCOURAGED by the *Reconstruction Era* of the United States of America from 1865 to 1877 that has its legacies lived on through the **13th Amendment** which abolished slavery; the **14th Amendment** which guaranteed citizenship to all persons born or naturalized in the United States and granting them federal civil rights; the **15th Amendment** declared that the right to vote could not be denied because of "*race, color, or previous condition of servitude,*"

RECOGNIZING that the 44th President of the United States of America, President Barack Obama, the 1st Black person to hold the office, was elected to the presidency at a time when this country was one year into a recession and economic instability that began in December 2007,

AFFIRMING that President Obama has been wrought with opposition since his inauguration, having to prove his citizenship by producing and authenticating a birth certificate; chastised for having the audacity to provide affordable health care; blamed for the economic instability; ridiculed because of his name and perceived ambiguity of his faith; daily lynched by the hands of conservative media who incite fear and perpetual ignorance on issues that affect the middle class, the working class and the poor,

ALARMED that such ludicrous ideologies would find voice in post-modernity in a civilized society,

BELIEVING THAT the Tea Party movement and conservative media moguls who purport to "take back America" is coded and couched as covert racism with a political platform to make President Obama a one term president,

DEEPLY CONCERNED that the insidious invasive, divisive, oppressive and systemic illness of racism, classism, elitism, ageism, fundamentalism, supremacy, greed, and marginalization that is predicated in prejudice has created the same dichotomous polarities that were the impetus for the Civil War,

CALLS UPON all registered and eligible voters in the Midwest conference to become an educated, informed and enlightened populous,

SUPPORTS voter registration, candidates' forums that are bi-partisan to be held in local churches, district conferences, and annual meetings,

URGES individual and collective prayers for grace, mercy, peace and the unction of the Holy Spirit abiding in love and living out the motto of the United States "In God We Trust,"

SOLEMNLY AFFIRMS the *E Pluribus Unum*, "out of many, one"

REMINDS all that out of many peoples, races, religions, ancestries, ideologies and theologies has emerged "One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all,"

REQUESTS that we must act now, don't give up but get ready.

Respectfully submitted on September 25, 2011 by

The Reverend Karla J. Cooper,
Writer for the Special Resolutions