

RESOLUTION
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS
2019 CONVENTION
OCTOBER 12, 2019

WHEREAS, the Social Justice teachings of the Catholic Church have, for over 120 years, championed the rights of workers to organize and to bargain collectively in good faith; and

WHEREAS this year marks 40 years since the U.S. Supreme Court in a 5-4 decision denied Catholic elementary and secondary teachers the jurisdiction and protection of the National Labor Relations Act and the National Labor Relations Board; and

WHEREAS in *NLRB v Catholic Bishop of Chicago*, the U.S. Supreme Court found that “neither the language of the statute nor its legislative history disclose any affirmative intention by Congress that church-operated schools be within the NLRB’s jurisdiction, [or] a clear expression of Congress’ intent to bring teachers of church-operated schools within the NLRB’s jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, despite over 120 years of papal encyclicals and U.S. Bishops’ pronouncements supporting the rights of workers to organize and bargain collectively, the U.S. Bishops have failed to take the initiative in the 40 years since the Catholic Bishop decision to establish structures or procedures within the Church to enable Catholic elementary and secondary teachers to exercise their rights to representation and collective bargaining;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delegates in attendance at the 2019 Convention of the National Association of Catholic School Teachers do hereby hold the U.S. Bishops accountable for promulgating documents in support of Catholic workers unionizing while failing to live up to the Catholic Social Justice teachings represented in these documents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delegates in attendance at the 2019 Convention of the National Association of Catholic School Teachers do hereby urge the leadership of the U.S. Catholic Church to create a Catholic Church Labor Relations Act that would establish the structures and procedures needed to fill the void created by the Catholic Bishop of Chicago Supreme Court decision.