September 12, 1941

PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION REGARDING RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL AFFILIATES

In order to clarify a number of points which have arisen concerning the relation of local affiliates with the national organization and to each other, the Board of Directors, after consultation with local affiliates, hereby adopts the following resolutions:

- 1. No local committee affiliated with the Union shall take action in regard to national legislation pending before Congress except in accordance with the position taken by the national organization. In the case of legislation on which the national organization does not act, local affiliates are free to express themselves as they wish. Where the publications of the Union have not made clear the Union's position as to a particular bill, local affiliates should consult the national office before acting. (This implements the by-laws of the Union, which provide that "on national issues no affiliate may take action deemed by the Board of Directors contrary to that of the national organization")
- 2. Neither the Civil Liberties Union nor its affiliates may favor nor oppose the candidacy of any person for elective or appointive public office, local or national.
- 3. No local affiliate shall take action on any matter arising in the area covered by any other local affiliate without the consent of that group.
- 4. The national office of the Union may act on any local matter on which a local committee declines to act, but only after consultation with the local committee.
- of the corporation (the Board of Directors and National Committee), active affiliated committees will be given the opportunity to express their view of the issue in order to get the maximum expression of opinion from those most active in the Union's work. The views of local affiliates, however, are without legal force and will be regarded solely as advisory.

Correspondence-Organizational Matters, Volume 2265. 1941. MS The Roger Baldwin Years, 1912-1950: Sub-Series 18: Organizational Matters — Correspondence, 1917-1951. Mudd Library, Princeton University. American Civil Liberties Union Papers, 1912-1990, http://tinyurl.galegroup.com/tinyurl/BNq8w3. Accessed 18 July 2019.