



Friends Committee on National Legislation

A Quaker Lobby in the Public Interest

Legislative Priorities for the 115th Congress

Approved by FCNL's General Committee on November 13, 2016

The Friends Committee on National Legislation seeks to bring spiritual values and Friends' testimonies to bear on public policy decisions. FCNL solicited the views and concerns of Quaker meetings, churches, and organizations around the country to help discern the following priorities for our lobbying and public education work during the 115th Congress (2017-2018):

- Promote peacebuilding, diplomacy and the peaceful prevention and resolution of violent conflict with an emphasis on the Middle East.
- Reduce military spending and armed interventions.
- Promote nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
- Advance equitable criminal justice systems that eliminate mass incarceration and support law-enforcement that is community-oriented and demilitarized.
- Pursue policies that promote and respect the rights, safety and dignity of all immigrants, refugees and migrants.
- Promote equitable access for all citizens to participation in the political process.
- Promote policies that reduce economic inequality and poverty, encourage fair compensation for workers and health care for all.
- Work to end gun violence.
- Witness and advocate on Native American concerns.
- Advocate for sustainable solutions to climate disruption and its consequences.

In each priority FCNL and Friends are called on to identify, expose and work to eliminate institutional racism in order to promote genuine equality of opportunity and communities in which everyone can safely live, learn, work, worship, and love.

FCNL seeks to collaborate across the political spectrum to advance these priorities. FCNL's work will be based on legislative opportunities, specific expertise, leadings, and available resources. In addition, *The World We Seek* (FCNL's Policy Statement) gives FCNL the flexibility to respond to crises and to other important legislative opportunities, as Way opens.