

Religious roundtable on resignation of evangelical leader for supporting same-sex civil unions

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 — The National Religious Leadership Roundtable today responded to the resignation of the Rev. Richard Cizik as vice president of governmental affairs of the National Association of Evangelicals (NAE). Cizik resigned after voicing support for civil unions for same-sex couples during an interview on National Public Radio.

Statement by the Rev. Rebecca Voelkel, Institute for Welcoming Resources and Faith Work Director, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

“To be an evangelical Christian is to be passionately articulate about the good news of Jesus Christ and to be fearless in making this known. That good news includes Jesus’ clear and clarion call for justice for all people. It is, therefore, deeply disheartening to hear that the National Association of Evangelicals — those who stand proudly in the evangelical tradition — have, yet again, turned its back on God’s lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender children.

“Richard Cizik’s resignation because of his comments on civil unions makes it clear that, although the NAE has sought to distance itself from the homophobic and hateful tradition of much of the radical rights’ version of Christianity, there yet remains much work to do before the NAE can rightly claim Jesus’ prophetic justice for all.”