

VESTRY RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSITION 21

*Approved by the Vestry of All Saints Church, Pasadena, via electronic vote
on February 2, 2000*

WHEREAS All Saints Church Pasadena is a Sanctuary for Children which strives to secure the basic economic, health, education, and safety needs of all children, and which believes that rehabilitation and reconciliation are more just and responsible than retribution; and

WHEREAS Proposition 21--by giving prosecutors, instead of judges, power to send many juvenile cases to adult court--would push more 14 and 15-year-olds into adult courts and state prisons; would make it easier to incarcerate children for non-criminal probation violations; would impose mandatory secure lockup for many juvenile offenders regardless of treatment need; and would dilute confidentiality rights in juvenile proceedings; and

WHEREAS Proposition 21 will, according to estimates by the Legislative Analyst Office and the State Department of Finance, cost the state hundreds of millions of dollars in annual costs and at least several hundreds of millions of dollars in one-time costs; and will cost local governments tens of millions of dollars annually and tens of millions to hundreds of millions of dollars in one-time costs; and will provide no resources to pay for the jury trials, prison terms and other mandates that it creates; and

WHEREAS Proposition 21 will allocate no additional resources to improve the juvenile justice system by providing youth with access to counseling, rehabilitation and educational opportunities to reform their lives: Therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Vestry of All Saints Church go on record as formally opposing California state Proposition 21 on the March 7, 2000, ballot and as willing to support efforts to defeat it.