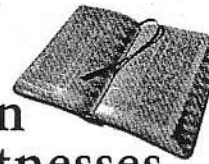


Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



Convention Office

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COJ:COF May 1, 2001

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Dear Brothers:

It has been reported to us that some hotels may try to add an "energy" or "fuel" surcharge to the room bill of their guests this year. Although this has received the most publicity in the state of California, it is now appearing in several other states as well. This is not a tax imposed by local, state, or federal government, but is solely determined by each hotel or hotel chain. Not all hotels in a given area are imposing such a surcharge and when they do, the surcharge amounts vary widely (from \$1.50 to \$3.75 per room per night).

Since we have contracted for a specific room rate with each hotel used for our conventions, we view any such surcharge as an increase in the contracted room rate. We do not agree that our brothers should pay this surcharge. Some hotels will likely place this surcharge on the guest's bill at checkout. Therefore, we ask that you inform the hotel, at check-in, that your group has a contracted rate and you do not agree to pay any energy surcharge if it is imposed. If you have any problem, feel free to contact the Rooming Department at the convention.

We send to you our warm Christian love and hope you enjoy the spiritual feast prepared for all of us at the "Teachers of God's Word" District Conventions!

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation of
Jehovah's Witnesses*