The Secretary
The Investment Board
The State of Wisconsin
16 North Carroll Street
Madison, Wisconsin

Gentlemen:

The Protestant Episcopal Church is soliciting proxies in support of a resolution to come before the annual meeting of the General Motors Corporation in Detroit on May 21, 1971. This resolution requests that the General Motors Board of Directors adopt resolutions to initiate the process of amending their corporate charter to forbid operations in the Republic of South Africa. This resolution was prepared by Robert Potter (partner in Belknap and Webb of Wall Street) and Paul Neuhauser (Professor of Corporate Law, University of Iowa). It is being sponsored by Presiding Bishop Hines and the Social Criteria Committee of the Episcopal Church.

We feel strongly that the Investment Board should use its voting power of its GM shares to support the resolution being forwarded by the Episcopal Church. Although we have no formal ties to that church, we believe that this state has sufficient commitment to the most elementary principles of human justice to allow it to utilize this action of a group of citizens seeking to realize justice in human relations in southern Africa.

It is a well-established fact that GM is subject to the laws of the Republic of South Africa. This means that its operations are based on severely discriminatory labor legislation and custom in a nation known for its brutal repression of human rights of blacks. GM's own policy is not one of reluctant compliance with government regulations, for it prides itself on having made a signal contribution to South Africa (GM Press Release, Washington Post, 6/30/70). Furthermore GM has worked in South Africa for 42 years without an African union, which is proscribed by law. GM is reported to have actively encouraged the immigration from Europe and Latin America of white workers to assist the South Africans to maintain the white job reservation system. As a result, the GM labor force has only 5% Africans in a nation in which Africans comprise 80% of the population. Rather than seeking internal change in the South African apartheid system, GM is contributing funds to the South Africa Foundation, which seeks to encourage Western trade and support for South Africa in public campaigns in the U.S.A. and Europe. Indeed, the managing director of GM South African has stated that he considers it inappropriate "...to publically work for changes in laws..." in South Africa (Interview, July, 1970).
For these reasons, we believe that GM shareholders should vote their stock against GM involvement in South Africa, and we urge the Investment Board to sign the enclosed proxy to that end. Furthermore, we request that the Board make a policy decision automatically to vote all other stock proxies against company involvement in South Africa. This action would be consonant with this state's history of commitment to human rights. If you do not choose to sign this proxy, we would request that you take a minimal action of not signing the GM management proxy and of requesting that your votes not be used on behalf of management on this issue.

Because the annual general meeting of GM occurs on May 21, we look forward to your reply in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Ralph L. Andreano
Dr. John Bowman
Dr. Marshall Clinard
Dr. Joseph Elder
Dr. Fred Hayward
Rev. Wandile Kuse
Dr. Herbert Lewis
Dr. Edris Makward
Mr. William Minter
Dr. Philip Noss
Mr. Michael Savage
Dr. Harold Scheub
Dr. Aaron Segal
Dr. Ann Seidman
Dr. Robert B. Seidman
Dr. A.W. Southall
Mr. Thomas Tlou
Dr. Okon Uya
Dr. David Wiley

(signatures available on request)