

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-A005
TITLE: Analysis of Budgeting Process
PROPOSER: Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance
COMMITTEE: Structure

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A151 Authorize Continuation of Budgetary Funding Task Force
2003-B004 Appoint a Mission Funding Task Force

Indirectly Related:

2000-C020 Review the Structure of General Convention
1997-D078 Make Changes in Financial Accountability and Access to Reports

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.



Resolution Number: 2006-A151
Title: Authorize Continuation of Budgetary Funding Task Force
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention authorize continuation of the Budgetary Funding Task Force, and that the Task Force report back to Executive Council in 2008 and to the 76th General Convention in 2009 on its findings and recommendations; and be it further
Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$20,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 191.



Resolution Number: 2003-B004
Title: Appoint a Mission Funding Task Force
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That in light of the need for resources to fulfill the 20/20 initiatives and to more fully address the many issues facing The Episcopal Church at all levels, this 74th General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies to appoint a task force of 12 people, including, among others, members of the Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development, the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance and the Committee on the State of the Church. This task force is to be named the Mission Funding Task Force; and be it further

Resolved, That the Mission Funding Task Force will undertake a comprehensive study on the systems and procedures for funding, budgeting, and expenditure of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society; and be it further

Resolved That this study include, but not be limited to the following issues:

- **The level of the church at which mission support is most efficient**
- **The best use of resources and the possible need for redirection of resources**
- **The effectiveness in supporting our stated priorities**
- **Possible unexplored efficiencies**
- **The review of existing commitments with quantification of the discretionary funding amount remaining after funding those commitments**
- **The most efficient and equitable method of funding the budget**
- **The encouragement of mutual responsibility, equity, and accountability to and among the dioceses of the church.**

The Task Force will report its findings and recommendations for consideration at the 75th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$75,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 632.

TOPIC/TITLE: Budget: Analysis of Budgeting Process
 PROPOSER: Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance
 C&C PAGE:
 BB PAGE: 44

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76h General Convention of The
- 2 Episcopal Church mandate and provide funds in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for The
- 3 Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church in conjunction with the Standing
- 4 Commission on Constitution and Canons to conduct a professional comprehensive analysis of the
- 5 budgeting process and budget of The Episcopal Church during the Triennium 2010-2012, paying
- 6 particular attention to the relationship between the General Convention (and its officers and
- 7 committees), the Executive Council (and its officers and committees), the Presiding Bishop and
- 8 the staff of The Episcopal Church; and be it further
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- 10 *Resolved*, That the study address any conflicts and ambiguities among the Canons, Joint Rules of
- 11 Order, Executive Council and Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society Bylaws and actual
- 12 practice with the goal of eliminating these conflicts and ambiguities so that the roles and
- 13 functions of various bodies and offices regarding the creation, adoption, revision, oversight and
- 14 all other aspects of the budgeting process and budget are clear; and be it further
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- 16 *Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Structure offer a report on the analysis with
- 17 appropriate recommendations and any proposed changes to the Constitution and Canons of The
- 18 Episcopal Church, the Joint Rules of Order and the Bylaws of Executive Council and the
- 19 Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society to the 77th General Convention for its consideration
- 20 and action.
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EXPLANATION:

In the course of its recent work, the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance (PB&F) has identified ambiguities, inconsistencies and an occasional lack of information that create conflicting interpretations between the Constitution and Canons of The Episcopal Church and the Rules of Order, which pertain to the creation, adoption, revision and oversight of the budget for The Episcopal Church. PB&F seeks clarity concerning (a) its own advisory role in overseeing and/or approving changes in the budget between General Conventions and (b) concerning the specific roles of the various officers of the church who are charged with budget responsibilities, especially the several named financial officers of the General Convention, the Executive Council and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. The lack of definition concerning these leadership roles is the end product of Resolutions amending the procedures and practices of the church, designed at different General Conventions to address a variety of budget oversight issues where concomitant amendments to the Rules were absent. The result is that the responsibilities of the General Convention, the Executive Council, the various officers of the church named in the Constitution and Canons and the Church Center's staff and their interrelationships are unclear, especially

Review Status: Not Yet Reviewed by PB&F

with regard to the purpose and intention of the budget, who, if any, have the authority to override budget expense limitations and budgetary Resolutions, make changes to the budget during the triennium and which committee or office within The Episcopal Church is responsible for authorizing and approving such changes. The Resolution asks that the system of the church's governance-actual and written-be analyzed by an experienced and competent independent firm, under the auspices of the Standing Commission on Structure, and that recommendations for amendments to the Constitution, Canons and Rules to achieve appropriate procedural changes be brought to the 77th General Convention.