

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-A034
TITLE: Advocacy for Cuba
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns
COMMITTEE: National and International Concerns

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A016 On the Topic of Improved Diplomatic Relations Between U.S. and Cuba (Rejected)
2003-D050 Request the Release of Funds for the Diocese of Cuba
2000-C045 Request Restoration of Diplomatic Relations Between the U.S. and Cuba
1994-A099 On the Topic of Cuba (Rejected)
1994-D106 On the Topic of Cuba (Rejected)
1991-D021 Urge Improved Diplomatic Relations Between U.S. and Cuba

Indirectly Related:

None

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-A016
Title: On the Topic of Improved Diplomatic Relations Between U.S. and Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church call for an immediate end to all portions of the United States economic embargo against the Republic of Cuba, particularly revisions to the embargo implemented by the U.S. Department of State in 2004; and be it further

Resolved, That dioceses and *congregations* ~~parishes~~ in The Episcopal Church consider the establishment of companion relationships with the Episcopal Church of Cuba in order to help support the IEC spiritually and, where possible, financially; and be it further

Resolved, That, in order to promote the exchange of religious and political ideals, all members of The Episcopal Church are encouraged to travel to Cuba subject to the availability of licenses from the U.S. government; and receive delegations from the Episcopal Church of Cuba subject to approval by the U.S. government; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church recommit itself at all levels to pray for the reconciliation of the United States and the Republic of Cuba, in the Name of the Prince of Peace whose most passionate desire for the Church is the ministry of reconciliation.



Resolution Number: 2003-D050
Title: Request the Release of Funds for the Diocese of Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention, through both its national and diocesan leadership, request our federal legislative delegations in Washington, D.C. to encourage immediate action on the filed applications to release pension payments, restricted endowment, and trust income held by ECUSA for the Diocese of Cuba, and other grants the disbursement of which was stopped by the Patriot Act passed after September 11th by Congress; and be it further

Resolved, That we continue to work with the Anglican Church of Canada which continues to provide oversight and assistance to the Cuban Church.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 683f.



Resolution Number: 2000-C045
Title: Request Restoration of Diplomatic Relations Between the U.S. and Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America ask the Congress of the United States and the President of the United States to restore full diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba; and be it further

Resolved, To ask that in the process of establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba, issues of human rights, freedom of speech and movement be taken in consideration along with freedom of political prisoners; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of General Convention send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Chairs of the House Foreign Affairs and of the Senate Foreign Relations Committees, and to all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives who are Episcopalians.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 644.



Resolution Number: 1994-A099
Title: On the Topic of Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of the Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 1994 General Convention of the Episcopal Church urges the government of the United States to re-examine its foreign policy with respect to Cuba, in light of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the subsequent human deprivation incurred by the withdrawal of Soviet support, and the continuing U.S. embargo; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the 1994 General Convention be requested to send a copy of this Resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, and to the Episcopalian and other appropriate Members of Congress.



Resolution Number: 1994-D106
Title: On the Topic of Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of the Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 71st General Convention call upon the President of the United States, the United Nations and the Organization of American States to ask the government of Cuba to stop the continuous violations of human rights, ~~and the government "embargo" of all basic needs to the people in Cuba, that the Cuban government lift the "embargo" from its own people and to~~ establish a system in which people can freely elect their own government and ~~can freely~~ conduct business and trade; ~~without the imposition of a totalitarian system.~~ *and be it further*

Resolved, That in response to Archbishop Tutu's compelling call to us for the United States to open up relations with Cuba, the 71st General Convention urge the government of the United States (1) to lift the long-standing economic embargo against Cuba, and (2) to remove restrictions on travel between the United States and Cuba.



Resolution Number: 1991-D021
Title: Urge Improved Diplomatic Relations Between U.S. and Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the 70th General Convention of the Episcopal Church urge the United States government to (1) lift the trade embargo against Cuba, (2) remove restrictions on travel between the United States and Cuba, (3) restore full diplomatic relations between the two countries and (4) cease propaganda broadcasts; and be it further**

Resolved, **That this 70th General Convention join with the Episcopal Bishop of Cuba when he says "This Convention, seeking a spirit, of reconciliation and peace, stands in the hope that the Government of Cuba will initiate a process of change in a period of time that would be adequately reasonable to the actual political, economic, and social context in Cuba that will facilitate the possibility that what is expressed in this resolution becomes a tangible reality"; and be it further**

Resolved, **That the Secretary of General Convention send a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Chairmen of the House Foreign Affairs and the Senate Foreign Relations Committees, and to the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Cuba.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 838.

09 - National and International Concerns

A034

TOPIC/TITLE: International Relations: Advocacy for Cuba

PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with
Justice Concerns

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1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention urge
2 continued advocacy and prayer from Episcopalians for an end to the United States embargo
3 against Cuba, particularly provisions that hamper the mission of the Church in Cuba, including
4 the ban on U.S. citizens traveling to Cuba, stringent limits on financial remittances from the U.S.
5 to Cubans and severe restrictions on the ability of Cuban citizens to visit the United States.
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