

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-A153  
**TITLE:** Federal Tribal Recognition  
**PROPOSER:** Executive Council Committee on Indigenous Ministries  
**COMMITTEE:** National and International Concerns

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2006-D046 Reaffirm the Jamestown Covenant  
1991-C041 Urge Creation of Government Commission on the Rights of American Indians  
1985-B007 Request Church-wide Advocacy of Indian Rights  
1979-B058 Urge Congress to Establish a Hawaiian Native Claims Commission

**Indirectly Related:**

2003-C008 Reaffirm the "Decade of Remembrance, Recognition, and Reconciliation"  
1997-A035 Designate a "Decade of Remembrance, Recognition, and Reconciliation"  
1991-D179 Celebrate the Survival of Native Americans on the Columbus Quincentennial  
1988-C009 Request the Presiding Bishop to Appoint a Panel on the Sioux Nation  
1976-D063 Support Native Indian Claims to Land in Canada

*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-D046  
**Title:** Reaffirm the Jamestown Covenant  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 75th General Convention reaffirm the Jamestown Covenant and engagement of this Church with Indigenous Peoples, designating the decade of 2007 to 2017 as the Second Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation, renewing the commitment of the Church to fully recognize and welcome Native Peoples into congregational life, and enter into a special intentionality towards developing an outreach partnership among Indigenous People; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 75th General Convention direct the Episcopal Council of Indian Ministries and Office of Native American Ministries to plan and help coordinate appropriate celebrations, events and materials for the Second Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation, with progress reports to be presented to the 76th General Convention.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 704.



**Resolution Number:** 1991-C041  
**Title:** Urge Creation of Government Commission on the Rights of American Indians  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, **That the Congress of the United States be urged to authorize and create a Special Presidential Commission on treaty rights and civil rights of American Indians to study claims and disputes arising under treaties and other agreements with all Indian nations within the United States and to recommend just and equitable settlements of them; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That the Secretary of General Convention be requested to communicate this resolution to the President of the United States and to Episcopalian and other appropriate members of the Congress; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That the Episcopal Council of Indian Ministries be directed to monitor and to advocate for the fair and prompt settlement of the claims and rights of American Indians as provided for in their existing treaties and other agreements.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 270.



**Resolution Number:** 1985-B007  
**Title:** Request Church-wide Advocacy of Indian Rights  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, **That the National Committee on Indian Work be instructed by the 68th General Convention of the Episcopal Church to request all agencies of the Church to advocate and support the honoring of all Indian treaty rights and the right to internal autonomy and self-determination of Indian Nations and Tribes.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 147.



**Resolution Number:** 1979-B058  
**Title:** Urge Congress to Establish a Hawaiian Native Claims Commission  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, **That this 66th General Convention urges adoption of legislation by the United States Congress to establish a Hawaiian Native Claims Settlement Commission;** and be it further

*Resolved*, **That copies of this resolution be sent to members of both Houses of Congress;** and be it further

*Resolved*, **That the General Convention commends this cause to the Episcopal Church and urges the members of the Episcopal Church to support such legislation.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 1979* (New York: General Convention, 1980), p. C-123.

TOPIC/TITLE: Federal Tribal Recognition  
 PROPOSER: Executive Council Committee on Indigenous Ministries  
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- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76th General Convention request The
- 2 Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations in Washington D.C. and the bishops and
- 3 Episcopalians of the Dioceses of Virginia, Southwest Virginia and Southern Virginia to call upon
- 4 their elected officials in support of the federal tribal recognition of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the
- 5 Monacan Indian Nation, the Chickahominy Tribe, the Eastern Chickahominy Tribe, the
- 6 Rappahannock Tribe and the Nansemond Tribe of Virginia; and be it further
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- 8 *Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention request The Episcopal Church's Office of
- 9 Government Relations and the bishops and Episcopalians of the Dioceses of Louisiana, Long
- 10 Island, Georgia, Atlanta, Hawaii and Fond du Lac to advocate in their respective spheres of
- 11 influence for the federal tribal recognition of the United Houma Nation of Louisiana, the
- 12 Shinnecock Tribal Nation of New York, the Southeastern Cherokee Council Inc. of Georgia, the
- 13 Native Hawaiian Nation and the Brothertown Nation of Wisconsin.
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EXPLANATION:

This Resolution originally came from The New Jamestown Covenant Summit of The Episcopal Church, gathered in Williamsburg, Virginia for the 400th Anniversary of the encounter of English colonists and Native Americans and to inaugurate a new "Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation." The Summit consisted of Episcopalians from 28 dioceses and represented 39 tribes. The Summit heard from the Chief of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe of Virginia, an Episcopal deacon from the Monacan Indian Nation of Virginia, the Principal Chief of the United Houma Nation of Louisiana, and leaders of the Shinnecock Tribal Nation of New York, the Southeastern Cherokee Council Inc. of Georgia, the Native Hawaiian Nation and the Brothertown Nation of Wisconsin about their struggles, desires and stalled attempts to receive federal recognition of tribal status and subsequent opportunities for health benefits, educational opportunities, economic development and equal voice with other tribes in Washington D.C. We recalled Resolution 1985-B007 of our General Convention which called upon "all agencies of the church to advocate and support the honoring of all Indian treaty rights and the right to internal autonomy and self-determination of Indian Nations and Tribes."