

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-D088  
**TITLE:** Health Care in the U.S.  
**PROPOSER:** The Very Rev. Ronald Clingenpeel  
**COMMITTEE:** National and International Concerns

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2006-C032 On the Topic of Health Care for All Americans (Rejected)  
1994-A057 Adopt Church Principles on Access to Health Care  
1991-A010 Advocate Legislation for Comprehensive Health Care  
1991-A099 Call for a System of Universal Access to Health Care  
1988-D108 Advocate for Appropriate Health Care for All Who Are Ill

**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-C032  
**Title:** On the Topic of Health Care for All Americans  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Rejected  
**Text of Resolution:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention support efforts at state and national levels to achieve accessible, affordable, high quality, universal health care; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention commend those states working actively toward this goal; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention commend those dioceses and congregations working toward this goal; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention urge the Episcopal dioceses and congregations to join ecumenical and interfaith faith-based organizations working toward this goal; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention encourage national, diocesan, and parish healthy ministry task forces to work toward this goal; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention urge the Standing Commission on National Concerns to identify health care for all as a top priority; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention urge the Office of Government Relations of The Episcopal Church to inform dioceses of legislation in their states that will advance this goal; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 75th General Convention urge the Health Subcommittee of the Standing Commission on National Concerns to coordinate with the Office of Government Relations to prepare a report to Executive Council at its February, 2007 meeting presenting its strategy and means to implement this resolution; and be it further

*Resolved*, That each diocese and the Government Relations Office report back to the 76th General Convention on their work toward achieving this goal. or engage in extraordinary rendition or who face discipline for exposing such illegal conduct.



**Resolution Number:** 1994-A057  
**Title:** Adopt Church Principles on Access to Health Care  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

***Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That this 71st General Convention of the Episcopal Church adopt the following four principles as the position of the Episcopal Church regarding health care:***

***That universal access to quality, cost effective, health care services be considered necessary for everyone in the population.***

***That "quality health care" be defined so as to include programs in preventive medicine, where wellness is the first priority.***

***That "quality health care" include interdisciplinary and interprofessional components to insure the care of the whole person--physiological, spiritual, psychological, social.***

***That "quality health care" include the balanced distribution of resources so that no region of the country is underserved.***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 1994* (New York: General Convention, 1995), p. 288.



**Resolution Number:** 1991-A010  
**Title:** Advocate Legislation for Comprehensive Health Care  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That this 70th General Convention assert the right of all individuals to medically necessary health care, including long-term services;** and be it further  
*Resolved*, **That the Episcopal Church be encouraged at all levels to advocate for legislation for comprehensive medical benefits to include diagnostic tests, primary and tertiary care for acute and chronic conditions, rehabilitation care, long-term care, mental health services, dental care and prescription drugs; special attention should be given to the needs of individuals with limited self-care capabilities;** and be it further  
*Resolved*, **That the Washington Office of the Episcopal Church, the Public Policy Network, the Office of Social and Specialized Ministries, and other appropriate agencies at the Episcopal Church Center facilitate the implementation of this resolution at the federal level.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 764.



**Resolution Number:** 1991-A099  
**Title:** Call for a System of Universal Access to Health Care  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the 70th General Convention decries the inequitable health care delivery system of the United States of America and calls upon the President, the Congress, Governors and other leaders to devise a system of universal access for the people of our country.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 610.



**Resolution Number:** 1988-D108  
**Title:** Advocate for Appropriate Health Care for All Who Are Ill  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That this 69th General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council, in light of the strains upon the health care system exerted by the AIDS Epidemic, to direct the Washington D.C. office of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America to adopt a strategy to advocate for all persons suffering from illness by creating appropriate levels of cost-effective health care, for example, hospices and alternative health care facilities.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 693.

**09 - National and International Concerns: HD**

D088

TOPIC/TITLE: Health Care: Health Care in the U.S.

PROPOSER: The Very Rev. Ronald Clingenpeel

C&C PAGE:

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1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76th General Convention urge the  
2 President of the United States, Barack Obama, and the Congress of the United States of  
3 America, to pass legislation this year guaranteeing adequate healthcare and insurance for  
4 every citizen of the United States of America; and be it further

5  
6 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the General Convention be directed to forward this  
7 resolution to the President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Vice-  
8 President of the United States (who serves as the presiding officer of the Senate).

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**EXPLANATION:**

There are approximately 46 million Americans who are without adequate healthcare and health insurance. Many of these people are children who come from households that live below the poverty level. It is a negative reflection upon our society that we are unwilling or unable to care for the weakest among us, and it is important that we, as Christian people, call upon our elected leaders to affect a change that will bring health and justice to those most vulnerable. As many of our congregations work to bring adequate health care to our communities, they serve as a model of compassion for our elected leaders. This resolution calls upon those most able to affect change to make a difference.

*Endorser(s):*The Rev. Brad Hinton, Mr. Jay Kloecker