

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-C042
TITLE: Amend Canon I.19.3
PROPOSER: Diocese of Massachusetts
COMMITTEE: Prayer Book, Liturgy & Church Music

Directly Related: (attached)

1991-B026 On the Topic of a Canon on Regulations Respecting Holy Matrimony (Rejected)

Indirectly Related:

2003-A027 Use Preferred Forms of Address for Men, Women, and Groups

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: 1991-B026
Title: On the Topic of a Canon on Regulations Respecting Holy Matrimony
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of the Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That after the word "solemnize" and before the word "the" in Title I, Canon 19, Sec. 3 the following words be added: *or be a party to*.

TOPIC/TITLE: Canons: Amend Canon I.19.3
PROPOSER: Diocese of Massachusetts
C&C PAGE: 58
BB PAGE:

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That Canon I.19.3 is hereby amended to
2 read as follows
3
4 Sec. 3. No Member of the Clergy of this Church shall solemnize the marriage of any
5 person who has been the ~~husband or wife~~ *spouse* of any other person then living, nor
6 shall any member of this Church enter into a marriage when either of the contracting
7 parties has been the ~~husband or the wife~~ *spouse* of any other person then living, except as
8 hereinafter provided.
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EXPLANATION:
This change makes the wording of Canon I.19.3 consistent with Canon 1.19.3 (b), which refers to "the former spouse" rather than specifying "husband or wife."