

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-A186
TITLE: Refer Impairment of Clergy Issue of Standing Commission on Ministry Development
PROPOSER: Title IV Task Force II
COMMITTEE: Ministry

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A153 Create a New Title IV Task Force
2003-A123 Call on Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency

Indirectly Related:

2006-D033 Commend and Address Episcopal Clergy Wellness Report
1991-D172 Make the Problem of Alcohol and Drug Addiction a Program Priority
1985-A083 Adopt Church Policy on Alcohol and Drug Abuse
1979-B122 Request Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism

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-A153
Title: Create a New Title IV Task Force
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention express its sincere and abiding appreciation and gratitude for the diligent, intensive, and dedicated work and leadership of the Task Force on Disciplinary Policies and Procedures (“Task Force I”) since 2001, in the research, drafting, listening, and communicating of and about its work to develop a comprehensive revision to Title IV of the Church Canons, so that our Canons on discipline reflect our ecclesiology and theology; and be it further

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention endorse the principles and values expressed in Task Force I’s proposed new Canon IV.1:

By virtue of our Baptismal Covenant, all members of this Church are called to holiness of life and accountability to one another. The Church and each Diocese shall support their members in their life in Christ and shall hold one another accountable as provided in this Title; and be it further

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention acknowledge that the work of Task Force I requires further work, reflection, and perfection; and be it further

Resolved, That Resolution A153 and the work of and documents from Task Force I be referred to a new Title IV Task Force (“Task Force II”) of twelve persons comprising: three members appointed by the Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons, three members appointed by the Standing Commission on Ministry Development, and six other members, to include three members of Task Force I, jointly appointed by the President of the House of Deputies and the Presiding Bishop. Task Force II shall be charged to complete and perfect this vital work, continuing the focus on the following critical goals, concerns, and values:

1. **Reflect the values, ecclesiology, and theology of the Church;**
2. **Move Title IV towards a reconciliation model for all appropriate circumstances;**
3. **Encourage the prompt resolution of conflicts in the Church and the reconciliation of persons involved in those conflicts at the earliest appropriate time and the lowest appropriate level of the Church;**
4. **Consider the possible inclusion of certain Lay Persons in Title IV whose office or other leadership role makes inclusion appropriate, provided the treatment of their accountability and discipline is commensurate with their lay status, responsibilities, and commitments;**
5. **Maintain the historic pastoral role and canonical authority of Bishops; and**
6. **Respect the roles, rights, and integrity of those persons subject to Title IV, and of injured persons, communities, Parishes, Missions, Congregations, and the Church; and be it further**

Resolved, That Task Force II meet during the next triennium, giving the Church due notice of its meetings; that it make available such periodic reports of its work as will best inform the Church of its activities; and that it make a final report, with a proposed Title IV revision along with explanatory and educational materials, to the 76th General Convention not later than January 1, 2009; and be it further

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention consider a budget allocation of \$60,000 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), pp. 341-343.



Resolution Number: 2003-A123
Title: Call on Dioceses to Establish Committees on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention call on all dioceses to establish Diocesan Committees on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency to provide educational programs for clergy, church staff, and congregations that take account of recent advances in treatment of alcohol and drug dependency, and that such committees address problems related to alcohol or drug dependency in clergy, church staff, and, when requested, laypersons; and be it further

Resolved, That dioceses make strong efforts to develop policies concerning treatment and future employment for diocesan clergy and church staff who are dependent on alcohol or drugs; and be it further

Resolved, That dioceses make strong efforts to ensure that health care insurance for diocesan clergy and church staff includes adequate coverage for mental health and addiction, particularly inpatient treatment for dependency on alcohol or drugs.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 340f.

TOPIC/TITLE: Ministry: Refer Impairment of Clergy Issue of Standing Commission on Ministry Development

PROPOSER: Title IV Task Force II

C&C PAGE:

BB PAGE: 797

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, The House of _____ concurring,
2 That the 76th General Convention, having received the report and
3 recommendations of the Title IV Task Force II regarding possible canonical
4 amendments by which to address the needs and circumstances of Members of the
5 Clergy who may be impaired by physical, mental or substance abuse-related
6 causes, hereby refers this issue to the Standing Commission on Ministry
7 Development for further study and recommendations to the 77th General
8 Convention.
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