

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-A048  
**TITLE:** Funding of the Standing Commission on Episcopal Communications  
**PROPOSER:** Standing Commission on Episcopal Church Communication  
**COMMITTEE:** Program, Budget and Finance

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2003-D069 Amend Canon I.1.2(n) [Standing Commission on Episcopal Church Communication]  
1997-B015 Direct the Executive Council to Initiate a Communications Strategy

**Indirectly Related:**

2006-D082 Launch an Information Technology Cooperative Network

*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:** 2003-D069  
**Title:** Amend Canon I.1.2(n) [Standing Commission on Episcopal Church Communication]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention affirm the policy that broad, diverse, and multi-faceted communication is central to and essential for the mission of The Episcopal Church; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That effective communication is an overarching ministry and cannot be fulfilled as either a list of tasks or an addendum to other facets of the Church's mission and ministries; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That a national strategy for communication must meet the needs of, and be reflective of, a broad and diverse church; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That Canon I.1.2(n) be amended by adding this subsection:*  
*(12) A Standing Commission on Episcopal Church Communication consisting of 14 members (4 Bishops, 4 Priests and/or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons). It shall be the duty of the Commission to guide the policies, participate in the strategic planning, and share in the oversight of implementing a comprehensive communication strategy for the Episcopal Church;*  
And be it further  
*Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$0 for implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 336.



**Resolution Number:** 1997-B015  
**Title:** Direct the Executive Council to Initiate a Communications Strategy  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted and Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ in this time of revolutionary technologies, the 72nd General Convention urge the comprehensive use of print, video, audio, digital, and other communications media to disseminate information and build community within the Church itself; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 72nd General Convention direct the Executive Council to initiate the development, implementation and assessment of a unified, coordinated communications strategy for mission and ministry, to include:*

- Use of current and emerging tools of communications;
- Initiatives to develop and implement this strategy in partnerships with the staff at the Church Center, Episcopal Communicators, Provincial and Diocesan staff communicators, other Church agencies involved in communications, and outside experts in the field;
- Establishment of an accountable oversight team to include both Church employees and other Episcopalians who are nationally recognized in the field of new and emerging technologies, which is charged with managing the requirements and recommendations of this Resolution, establishing and monitoring benchmarks to assess the effectiveness of this strategy, and reporting to Executive Council within the revised structure of the Church;
- Coordination of existing capital plans for information systems hardware and software at the Church Center;
- Training for the effective utilization of these new technologies by Church Center personnel; and be it further

*Resolved, That appropriate expenditures be made in the coming triennium to facilitate this strategy, including:*

- An amount not less than \$60,000 to be allocated from funds budgeted for the communications area, to develop and distribute educational materials to assist Diocesan and Parish leadership understanding media in all forms;
- An amount not less than \$150,000 to be allocated from funds budgeted for the communications area, to provide consultants to assist in the implementation of this strategy, and guidance in the selection, purchase, and use of all the tools of communications at each level of our Church;
- A matching grant pool, established by Executive Council and funded from existing trust, restricted, or reserve resources, for use by dioceses as demonstration or start-up grants consistent with this strategy; and be it further

*Resolved, That the General Convention mandate that the Executive Council present a continuing contemporary communications vision to the 73rd General Convention, including provisions for implementation in the proposed budget for the next triennium.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, 1997* (New York: General Convention, 1998), pp. 224-225.

**25 - Program, Budget and Finance**

A048

TOPIC/TITLE: Budget: Funding of the Standing Commission on Episcopal Communications  
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Episcopal Church Communication  
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- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76th General Convention of The
- 2 Episcopal Church assign \$15,000 to the work of the Standing Commission on Episcopal
- 3 Communications for the 2010-2013 Triennium; and be it further
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- 5 *Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program,
- 6 Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$15,000 for the implementation of this
- 7 Resolution.
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**EXPLANATION:**

The Standing Commission on Episcopal Church Communications has been hampered in fulfilling its mandate by having yet to be given any funds by General Convention to carry out the work it was asked to do. The funds requested should provide sufficient money to hold three meetings during the upcoming triennium and cover any administrative cost that the Standing Commission incurs.