

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-A053
Title: Ensure the vital role of the Episcopal HBCUs in building The Beloved Community
Proposer: Executive Council
Topic: Education, Reconciliation

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-D095 On the Topic of an Entrepreneurial Giving Program (Rejected)
1982-D045 Encourage Missionary Support for Black Colleges
1976-B117 Continue to Financially Support the Three Black Colleges

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2000-D002 Appropriate Funds for Parental Programs at Historically Black Colleges

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.

A053 - Ensure the vital role of the Episcopal HBCUs in building The Beloved Community

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Executive Council

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

HiA: HD

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 09 - Racial Justice & Reconciliation

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the General Convention call upon dioceses, parishes and Episcopalians to marshal support for Saint Augustine's University and Voorhees College to ensure their continuing success.

Explanation

The Beloved Community in the Episcopal Church has educational deep roots:

- In 1865, General Convention established a Freedman's Commission as an agency for the evangelization and education of former slaves;
- In 1868, St. Augustine's Normal School in Raleigh, NC, was founded following the call of twelve priests who travelled from North to South for that purpose;
- In 1883, in Lawrenceville, Virginia, the son of a former slave, James Solomon Russell, a newly ordained priest, started a Normal School for former slaves that became St. Paul's College, which closed in 2012;
- In 1893, Elizabeth Evelyn Wright, trained by Booker T. Washington at Tuskegee, opened a Normal School in Denmark, South Carolina that became Voorhees College.

The powerful Beloved Community legacy continues today through the mission of our two surviving Episcopal HBCUs. We recognize that the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few in this vulnerable ministry. By the nature of their service to a vulnerable, underserved population, our Episcopal HBCUs need ongoing external support that far exceeds what the church can appropriate. It is crucial to continue raising awareness of their distinctive mission and to challenge Episcopalians to provide needed support for their continuance.



Resolution Number: 2018-D095
Title: On the Topic of an Entrepreneurial Giving Program
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 79th General Convention offer funding to Voorhees College and St. Augustine's University to launch pilot programs of direct, entrepreneurial giving experience for undergraduate students at each institution; and be it further

Resolved, That 20 students at each institution be provided with \$500 and the instruction to do good with it in the world as they see fit, with the understanding that the use of the money or choice of recipient will be directed solely by the students, but situated in a class or extracurricular program where faculty may assist the students with research, networking, and reflection on their choice of disbursement, and with the administration of each instruction identifying the 20 participating students in a manner they see fit; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$20,000 for the implementation of this resolution, with further funding beyond the pilot program or first year to be sought from outside sources or grant support.



Resolution Number: 1982-D045
Title: Encourage Missionary Support for Black Colleges
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That all Dioceses, Parishes, Missions and individual members be encouraged to include these colleges in their missionary outreach budgets; and be it further
Resolved, That the Executive Council and all Dioceses, Parishes and Missions be urged to cooperate with these colleges in disseminating information about their programs and financial needs.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982* (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-143.



Resolution Number: 1976-B117
Title: Continue to Financially Support the Three Black Colleges
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 11, through September 23, 1976, strongly supports the continuance of financial support through the budget at no less than the present level and, if possible, at an increased level, to Voorhees College, Denmark, South Carolina; St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, North Carolina; and St. Paul's College, Lawrenceville, Virginia; and be it further

Resolved, That financial support of these institutions be recognized as an important part of the ongoing missionary and educational work of the Church.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 1976* (New York: General Convention, 1977), p. C-8.