

## General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

**Resolution No.:** 2022-A065  
**Title:** Translation and adaption of Safe Church training for speakers of Spanish, Creole and French  
**Proposer:** Task Force to Develop Model Sexual Harassment Policies & Safe Church Training  
**Topic:** Language Translation, Sexual Misconduct

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### **Directly Related:** (Attached)

2018-A048 Create a Task Force to Update Safe Church Training  
2003-C029 Publish Official Church Documents in Spanish and French

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

2018-A179 Amend Canon I.1.2(o) [Committees and Task Forces]  
2018-A281 Reaffirm Commitment to Providing Translation Services

*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.*

# A065 - Translation and adaption of Safe Church training for speakers of Spanish, Creole and French

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** Task Force to Develop Model Sexual Harassment Policies & Safe Church Training

**Requests New Interim Body:** Yes

**Amends C&C or Rules of Order:** No

**Has Budget Implications:** Yes

**Cost:** \$350,000.00

**HiA:** HD

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** 06 - Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation, & Safeguarding

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** No

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## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention direct the Executive Council to establish a Task Force pursuant to Canon I.1.2.o to create and implement Spanish, Creole and French language Safe Church training materials to be developed during the next triennium to reflect the approved 2017 Model Policies for the Protection of Children and Youth and the approved 2017 Model Policies for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults, such committee to be comprised of twelve (12) people who reflect the diversity of The Episcopal Church, which should include youth ministers, those working with vulnerable adults, educators for adults, at least eight (8) native speakers of Creole, French and Spanish from several regions and those experienced in the prevention of sexual abuse; membership should also include at least three (3) persons from the Task Force to Develop Model Sexual Harassment Policies & Safe Church Training appointed in 2018; and be it further

*Resolved*, That such new training materials be based on the Safe Church training developed in the 2018-2020 triennium by Praesidium, Inc., and that the new multi-lingual training be adapted to the variety of cultures in The Episcopal Church, in use of language, images, metaphors, examples, and the like; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Church Pension Group be asked to collaborate and coordinate their training program with this effort and to appoint a member to serve on the task force; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commits itself to the financial support of the creation, implementation and maintenance of such safe church training materials to advance clergy wellness and reduce liability; and be it further

*Resolved*, That \$300,000 be budgeted for the creation of the French, Creole and Spanish Safe Church training materials described in this resolution and \$50,000 for the work of the Task Force.

## **Explanation**

In 2018, General Convention directed development of training to implement the approved 2017 Model Policies for the Protection of Children and Youth and the approved 2017 Model Policies for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults. This training will have been developed in English by June, 2021. To make the training available across the church, it needs to be translated to the official languages of the Church. Literal translation is not the goal: The training must reflect the variety of cultures and traditions found in the Church, so that it can have the effect of changing behaviors and attitudes wherever the people of God interact.

The provided budget allows a translation process modeled on that of the Book of Common Prayer, with a single translator for each language, providing a unity of voice throughout the training, to be supported by consultants representing different regions. The consultants have the responsibility of assuring that the language and content are received and understood in their contexts. The budget also provides for implementing the three languages into the online and instructor-led learning materials.

The resolution further requests the continued support and maintenance of the translated versions of the training by Church Pension Group, consistent with the support of the prior versions of the training.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-A048  
**Title:** Create a Task Force to Update Safe Church Training  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That this 79th General Convention direct the Executive Council to establish a Task Force pursuant to Canon I.1.2.(o) to create and implement new safe church training materials to be developed during the next triennium to reflect the approved 2017 Model Policies for the Protection of Children and Youth and the approved 2017 Model Policies for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults, such committee to be comprised of at least nine (9) and no more than twelve (12) people who reflect the diversity of The Episcopal Church, which should include youth ministers, those working with vulnerable adults, educators for adults, and those experienced in the prevention of sexual abuse; membership should also include at least three (3) persons from the Task Force to Update Sexual Misconduct Policies appointed in 2015; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Church Pension Group be asked to collaborate and coordinate their training program with this effort and to appoint a member to serve on the committee; and be it further*

*Resolved, That such safe church training materials for the prevention of sexual misconduct include written and web-based training materials that include responsive and multilingual online web-based resources, a modern content management system and a curated resource list, such training to provide Universal Training accessible to all congregants and ministry participants that fosters a culture of safety and inclusion for all people and Specialized Training consisting of discrete modules on topics directly related to ministry roles and functions; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this 79th General Convention assign to the Task Force that will oversee the new safe church training materials the following duties: where and how to host training materials that includes a comprehensive list of resources, develop a plan for continued updating of the training materials and the curating of resources, as well as a plan to oversee this work; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this 79th General Convention direct the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society [DFMS] to host on its website the Model Policies for the Protection of Children and Youth and the Model Policies for the Protection of Vulnerable Adults for the prevention of sexual misconduct approved in 2017; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commits itself to the financial support of the creation, implementation and maintenance of such safe church training materials to advance clergy wellness and reduce liability; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this 79th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$245,000 for the creation of the safe church training materials described in this resolution and \$50,000 for the work of the Task Force.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 890-891.



**Resolution Number:** 2003-C029  
**Title:** Publish Official Church Documents in Spanish and French  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted and Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention direct that all official documents, publications, and digital publications produced by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society be issued in Spanish and French no later than 2006, and in other languages used in The Episcopal Church as soon as possible; and be it further*

*Resolved, That translated materials shall include, but are not limited to the following: Episcopal News Service (ENS) press releases, the Presiding Bishop's monthly message, Pastoral Letters of the House of Bishops, Summary Reports of the actions of General Convention, Executive Council resolutions and actions, and official communications from The Episcopal Church; and be it further*

*Resolved, That materials produced in Spanish and French be published on The Episcopal Church website after review by the Office of Ethnic Congregational Development; and be it further*

*Resolved, That *Episcopal Life* be urged to publish a section of the newspaper in Spanish and French; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention encourage dioceses, congregations, and other agencies and institutions related to The Episcopal Church to make available, as appropriate, materials in Spanish and French or other languages of its constituents; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$85,000 per year for the triennium for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 190f.