

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-B006
Title: Investing in State-Level Gun Violence Prevention Advocacy
Proposer: The Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas
Topic: Gun Control

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-C005 Implement Laws to Decrease Gun Violence
2000-D004 Express Concern About Availability of Handguns and Assault Weapons

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

2015-B008 Support Handgun Purchaser Licensing
2000-B007 Request the Removal of Handguns and Assault Weapons
1997-C035 Urge Restrictions on Sale, Ownership and Use of Firearms
1991-B042 Express the Mind of the House Bishops Supporting Handgun Controls
1976-C052 Urge Congress to Adopt Effective Hand Gun Control Legislation

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.

B006 - Investing in State-Level Gun Violence Prevention Advocacy

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: The Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas

Endorsed by: The Rt. Rev. Bonnie Perry, The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: Yes

Cost: 160,000.00 €

HiA: HD

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 08 - Social Justice & United States Policy

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention urge dioceses of The Episcopal Church across the United States to advocate for safe gun legislation with their state governments; and be it further

Resolved, that the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations support domestic dioceses in state-level advocacy against gun violence and other forms of community violence; and be it further

Resolved, to assist the Office of Government Relations in this state-level advocacy against violence, the Joint Standing Commission on Program, Budget, and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$160,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

Explanation

Recent gun violence in Buffalo, Uvalde, and Tulsa have underscored the need for safe gun legislation to prevent gun violence. Deep political divisions in the U.S. Congress, however, have made it difficult to pass meaningful gun violence-prevention legislation at the federal level. In the absence of coherent federal policy, state lawmakers can pass laws that can prevent gun violence.

Episcopalians in dioceses across the church, led by Bishops United Against Gun Violence, are eager to advocate with their state legislatures and governors for legislation that can help stop the epidemic of gun violence, but currently, the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations (OGR) does not have the capacity to provide support to state-level advocacy efforts. This resolution provides two years of funding for OGR to support state-level gun violence and community violence prevention advocates. The work can be accomplished without increasing the permanent DFMS staff and will be evaluated in advance of the 2024 General Convention.



Resolution Number: 2015-C005
Title: Implement Laws to Decrease Gun Violence
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention on the 50th anniversary of the murder of seminarian Jonathan Daniels, urge all legislators at federal, state and local levels to help decrease gun violence by implementing laws that;

1. Require permits to carry concealed weapons and criminal background checks for every gun purchase, including those made at gun shows; and
2. Except for the use of military and law enforcement agencies, ban the sale, transfer, importation and manufacture of military-style assault weapons and high-capacity magazines; and
3. Ban the importation and manufacture of Full-Auto Conversion kits that convert guns into automatic weapons; and
4. Tighten laws against gun trafficking, and increase penalties for those who engage in "straw purchases" of firearms for ineligible persons; and
5. Prohibit persons from purchasing guns without evidence of gun safety training; and
6. Recognize the impact of existing inheritance laws on the transfer of gun ownership; and
7. Promote funding for research into the prevention and causes of gun violence.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 328.



Resolution Number: 2000-D004

Title: Express Concern About Availability of Handguns and Assault Weapons

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention express deep concern about the repeated use of easily available hand guns and assault weapons by and against children and call upon Episcopalians to seek ways to develop community strategies and create sanctuaries for our children, so that all may come to identify and value themselves and others as the precious children of God that they are, and that they may come to know peace in their lives and to create peace for future generations.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 320f.