

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-B007
Title: Investment in Community Violence Intervention to Prevent Gun Violence
Proposer: The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez
Topic: Gun Control

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-B005 Advocate for Study of Gun Violence as a Public Health Crisis
2015-C005 Implement Laws to Decrease Gun Violence

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

2015-B008 Support Handgun Purchaser Licensing
2000-D004 Express Concern About Availability 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.

B007 - Investment in Community Violence Intervention to Prevent Gun Violence

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutiérrez

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

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

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 commend investment in evidence-based community violence intervention programs and strategies that address gun violence as a public health issue; improve physical environments; strengthen anti-violence social norms; engage and support youth; reduce substance abuse; mitigate financial stress; reduce the harmful effects of the justice process; and confront the proliferation of guns; and be it further

Resolved, that the 80th General Convention call upon the Congress and the executive branch to allocate significant federal funding for evidence-based community violence intervention programs and strategies; and be it further

Resolved, that the Office of Government Relations, Episcopal Public Policy Network, dioceses, congregations and individual Episcopalians be encouraged to advocate for funding and public policy to support community violence intervention programs and strategies that have been proven to reduce gun violence.

Explanation

In November 2020, the John Jay College of Criminal Justice Research and Evaluation Center released a report, “Reducing Violence Without Police: A Review of Research

Evidence.” In it, the Center identified seven evidence-based strategies for reducing community violence:

- Improve the physical environment
- Strengthen anti-violence social norms and peer relationships
- Engage and support youth
- Reduce substance abuse
- Mitigate financial stress
- Reduce the harmful effects of the justice process
- Confront the gun problem

These strategies, the report notes, are “focused on community-level change with the potential to achieve durable, scalable effects.”

Investment in community violence intervention is being pursued at the federal level with the creation in 2021 of the White House Community Violence Intervention (CVI) Collaborative, a 16-jurisdiction cohort of mayors, law enforcement, community violence prevention experts, and philanthropic leaders committed to using public funding to increase investment in community violence intervention. Other mechanisms for investing in evidence-based community violence also exist at the local, state and federal levels. This resolution would strengthen the ability of the Office of Government Relations and Episcopalians across the church to advocate for public investments in strategies that are proven to reduce gun violence in communities.



Resolution Number: 2018-B005
Title: Advocate for Study of Gun Violence as a Public Health Crisis
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention recognize gun violence in the United States as a public health crisis that requires federal government study to mitigate; and be it further
Resolved, That the 79th General Convention calls upon the Congress of the United States to repeal the Dickey Amendment and oppose similar efforts that seek to limit the scope of federally funded agencies to do research and share statistics related to gun violence, sales and distribution of untraceable guns, and unlicensed gun sales; and be it further
Resolved, That the Office of Government Relations, members of the Episcopal Public Policy Network and individual Episcopalians be encouraged to advocate for funding and other policy measures that would encourage the Centers for Disease Control and any other appropriate federal government entities to study thoroughly gun violence in the United States and its impact on public health.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 419.



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.