

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-C071
Title: Standards for Spanish Language Use in The Episcopal Church
Proposer: East Carolina
Topic: Language Translation

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A281 Reaffirm Commitment to Providing Translation Services
2015-A068 Begin Translating Liturgies into Creole, French and Spanish
2003-C029 Publish Official Church Documents in Spanish and French

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

2018-C024 Propose a Process for Liturgical Translations
2015-A063 Amend Canon II.2 [Of Bible Translations] to Add Translation Criteria
2009-B017 Urge Translation of TEC Website into Spanish and French
2006-A072 Gather a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Collection of Music

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.

C071 - Standards for Spanish Language use in The Episcopal Church

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: East Carolina

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

HiA: HB

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy & Music

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the One Hundred Thirty-Ninth Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina requires that the use of Spanish in official communications and liturgies be done in accordance with the grammatical conventions of the Spanish-speaking community as endorsed by the Royal Spanish Academy and the Association of Academies of the Spanish Language; and be it further,

Resolved: that the One Hundred Thirty-Ninth Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina commends this resolution for adoption by the Eightieth General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

Explanation

The English language prevails in the Episcopal Church, and there are many Spanish-speaking Christians who worship, pray, and are in relation as part of The Episcopal Church, and there is a need to cultivate mutual respect between the communities of each respective language,

Original as submitted in Spanish:

Considerando que el inglés prevalece en la Iglesia Episcopal,

Considerando que es necesario cultivar el respeto mutuo entre las comunidades decada idioma,

Queda resuelto que la Ciento Trigésima Novena Convención de la Diócesis de Carolina del Este requiere que el uso del Español en las comunicaciones oficiales yliturgias se haga de acuerdo con las convenciones gramaticales de la comunidad hispanohablante avaladas por la Real Academia Española y la Asociación de Academias de la Lengua Española.

Adicionalmente queda resuelto: que la Ciento Trigésima Novena Convención de laDiócesis Episcopal de Carolina del Este encomienda esta resolución para que sea adoptada por la octogésima Convención General de la Iglesia Episcopal.



Resolution Number: 2018-A281
Title: Reaffirm Commitment to Providing Translation Services
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention affirm the necessity of translation, interpretation, communication access, and related services to allow for the full inclusion of all participants; that it commend the work of the General Convention Office in providing for these needs; and, at the same time, that it express its regret for the inadequacy of these services and resources in certain circumstances during this Convention, resulting in the exclusion and hurt of some of its members; and be it further

Resolved, That it is the intention of The Episcopal Church to continue our becoming ‘The Beloved Community;’ a charism of which is a multi-cultural church that functions with integrity, equity and care for the whole body; and be it further

Resolved, That the Joint Standing Commission on Planning and Arrangements and The General Convention Office reaffirm their commitments to provide professional interpretation and translation services for members of the General Convention as needed for all meetings and documents of the Convention as well as throughout the triennium; that at General Convention hearings and floor sessions every reasonable effort be made for simultaneous interpretation and translation as needed; and that the orientation process for the General Convention communicate clearly the procedures for arranging interpretation and translation services; and be it further

Resolved, That the Joint Standing Commission take into account the varying language, hearing, and sight needs of those participating in General Convention; and that it invite members with diverse communication needs into its planning process in order to allow for the full inclusion and substantive participation of all; and be it further

Resolved, That funding for this work be among the usual and customary administrative expenses of The General Convention, and that regular evaluation of translation and interpretation resources include the primary users of these services.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 1119.



Resolution Number: 2015-A068
Title: Begin Translating Liturgies into Creole, French and Spanish
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, in cooperation with the Custodian of the Book of Common Prayer, be directed to begin work on translation of portions of the Book of Common Prayer and/or other authorized liturgical resources into French, Creole, and Spanish, according to the principles outlined in Canon II.3.5; 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 \$40,000 for the implementation of this resolution; \$20,000 to be allocated for work on French and Creole translations; and \$20,000 for work on Spanish translations.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 680.



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.