

**General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024  
Archives' Research Report**

**Resolution No.:** 2024-A130  
**Title:** Developing Alternative Hymn Texts  
**Proposer:** Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music  
**Topic:** Liturgy

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

None

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

2022-A126 Examine Divisive Language of All Approved Liturgical Texts

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2022, 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](#).*

# A130 - Developing alternative hymn texts

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music

**Has Budget Implications:** Yes

**Cost:** \$200,000.00

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

**Requests New Interim Body:** No

**Changes Mandate Of Existing Ib:** Yes

**Directs Dfms Staff:** No

**Directs Dioceses:** No

**Directs Executive Council:** No

**HiA:** No House Assigned

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** No Committee Assigned

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** No

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## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, That the 81st General Convention authorize the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to work during the forthcoming triennium to develop a digital collection of alternative versions of hymns that address issues of problematic wording to be made available to congregations for their use with permission from their bishop and to be published by Church Publishing Incorporated; and be it further

*Resolved*, That efforts begun in the last triennium to identify and create such alternative texts be expanded to include communities that do not use the English language; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the sum of \$200,000 be appropriated for this work.

## Explanation

Resolution 2022-A126 directed the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to examine the Book of Common Prayer, the Hymnal 1982, and other approved liturgical materials regarding “colonialist, racist, white supremacist, imperialistic, and nationalistic language.” The Subcommittee on Liturgical Music conducted surveys of various hymns in English and identified some that contain such textual features. Furthermore, alternative wordings were suggested.

This resolution asks that this work continue, and that non-anglophone materials be added for the same consideration.