

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-C003
Title: On Affordable Housing
Proposer: North Carolina
Topic: Poverty

Directly Related: (Attached)

2009-C049 Develop a Plan and Activities to Address Domestic Poverty
2003-D040 Reaffirm Commitment to Provide Affordable Housing for the Poor
1991-D078 Affirm Commitment to Housing for Low and Moderate Income Residents
1988-D166 Urge Concern for Various Housing Issues

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

2018-C041 Advocate for Policies Supporting Nutrition, Healthcare, and Housing as Human Rights
1991-B007 Authorize the Establishment of a National Episcopal Housing Corporation
1985-A139 Develop Resources to Assist Congregations in Social and Community Outreach
1985-D127 Support Ministry to the Homeless Who Are Mentally Ill
1976-B172 Recommend the Church Assign Priority to Nonprofit Housing

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](#).

C003 - On Affordable Housing

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: North Carolina

Has Budget Implications: Yes

Cost: \$95,000.00

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Requests New Interim Body: Yes

Changes Mandate Of Existing Ib: No

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

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 81st General Convention authorize the establishment of a Task Force on Affordable Housing and Homelessness. The Presiding Bishop shall appoint the Episcopal members and the President of the House of Deputies shall appoint the Priests and Deacons and the Lay Persons to the Task Force, to be composed of thirteen (13) people, representing the diversity of the Church, as follows: 2 Bishops, 5 Priests or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons, to complete the following work: (a) investigate and document the engagement of Episcopal dioceses and congregations in the development of permanent, transitional, supportive, and emergency housing, and in ministries that assist families and individuals to access and sustain housing; (b) recommend approaches that will increase involvement of dioceses and congregations based on best practices identified, given local needs; and (c) study and formulate a recommendation regarding the need for a Standing Committee on Housing and Homelessness, or other most effective means, to elevate and empower Episcopal engagement in addressing this long-term and complex racial and economic justice issue; said work to be completed by November 30, 2026; and be it further

Resolved, That the Task Force on Affordable Housing and Homelessness ends with the submission of their report to the 82nd General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request a budget allocation of \$95,000 for the implementation of this resolution.



Resolution Number: 2009-C049
Title: Develop a Plan and Activities to Address Domestic Poverty
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention direct the Executive Council to develop a strategic plan with clear designation of authority and accountability to address issues of domestic economic justice and report back to the 77th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention urge each Episcopal Congregation to build relationships with and among the marginalized of their community as well as form local partnerships with agencies that work with low-income people; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention urge each Episcopal Congregation to begin or continue to engage in the traditional acts of mercy in which many congregations and Jubilee Centers participate: food pantries, clothing closets, soup kitchens, homeless shelters and other programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention continue and deepen its advocacy and shall urge dioceses and congregations (often in concert with the Episcopal Public Policy Network) to advocate for legislation that provides adequate levels of support and opportunities for low-income people; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention urge dioceses and congregations to promote and participate in church-based community organizing whereby people of the local community exercise the power of numbers and conviction to bring their needs to the attention of and promote effective action by elected officials and governmental bodies; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention support and participate and shall urge dioceses and congregations to support and participate in various models through which low-income people and their co-workers can take control of their own lives and meet their own needs: models such as community development corporations, housing corporations and co-ops, small business development and land trusts; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention encourage at every level loans and deposits to community development financial institutions (community loan funds, community development banks and credit unions, and micro-loan business funds) to support local community development.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), pp. 622-623.



Resolution Number: 2003-D040
Title: Reaffirm Commitment to Provide Affordable Housing for the Poor
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 74th General Convention reaffirm its commitment to providing rental and owner-occupied housing that is safe, accessible, and affordable for low-income and moderate-income persons and their families including persons with disabilities; and be it further

Resolved, That the Office of Governmental Relations urge the executive and legislative branches of the federal government and the dioceses to encourage state and local units of government to ensure that housing assistance programs are adequately funded to address the growing gap between the number of affordable housing units available and the number of renter households in the bottom quartile of income in this nation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention strongly encourage the local parish and interfaith community partnerships to address the lack of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families including persons with disabilities throughout this nation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Convention urge the Episcopal Network for Economic Justice to identify existing and new opportunities for involvement in the creation and investment in affordable housing and to report through the Jubilee Ministries Advisory Committee on the status of this work to the 75th General Convention and on the opportunities for The Episcopal Church to become involved in the creation of affordable housing.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 332f.



Resolution Number: 1991-D078
Title: Affirm Commitment to Housing for Low and Moderate Income Residents
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 70th General Convention of the Episcopal Church express its concern to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development over the deteriorating housing conditions facing low and moderate income residents of this nation; and be it further Resolved, That we continue in this Church, to address these problems by:

Affirming the strong support and commitment of the Episcopal Church to the mission and ministry of helping to provide decent and affordable housing to those of low and moderate income and to combatting homelessness;

Supporting the work of the Executive Council Housing Organizing Committee through the continuance of an adequate and highly trained staff as a resource to the Church at all levels;

Supporting the Economic Justice Implementation Committee's efforts to provide housing alternatives as part of their mandate for justice;

Encouraging the development of local parish and diocesan housing groups;

and be it further

Resolved, That this Church continue its support of, and work with, the Interreligious Coalition on Housing (ICH), the National Low Income Housing Coalition, (NLIHC), and other national housing advocacy groups in affirming this pastoral imperative; and be it further

Resolved, That the Housing Officer of the Episcopal Church Center staff continue to be a principal force in implementing the housing ministry of the Church and be directed to acquaint all dioceses of the Church with the technical assistance available to them in the areas of housing project initiation and development; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on the Church in Metropolitan Areas monitor the action and progress in all of the dioceses of the Church during the coming triennium, reporting back on the status of the implementation of this Resolution to the 71st General Convention.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 823.



Resolution Number: 1988-D166
Title: Urge Concern for Various Housing Issues
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 69th General Convention urge each diocese to incorporate a concern for housing issues into diocesan structures (e.g., departments, divisions, committees, commissions) to encourage the development of housing programs for low and moderate income persons and families; and be it further.

Resolved, That new initiatives for increased low and moderate income housing be established in the public and private sectors, those initiatives to include, but not be limited to, maintaining and expanding the role of state and federal governments and non-profit institutions, including the Church, in Section #8 rent subsidy programs, rehabilitation of existent sub-standard housing, and the construction of new rental and owner-occupied housing for low and moderate income people; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and any other federally financed housing be maintained for low and moderate income persons and families, for whom this housing was built; and be it further

Resolved, That the Housing Officer of the Episcopal Church Center staff be requested to acquaint all dioceses of the Church with the technical assistance available to them in areas of housing project initiation and development; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on the Church in Metropolitan Areas monitor the action and progress in all of the dioceses of the Church during the coming triennium, reporting back on the status of implementation of this resolution to the 70th General Convention.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 294.