

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-C035
Title: End the Practice of Labor Trafficking of Migrant Youth
Proposer: Province II
Topic: Immigration, Public Policy, Social Action

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A178 Denounce Inhumane Immigration Policies and Advocate on Behalf of Migrants

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

None

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](#).

C035 - End the Practice of Labor Trafficking of Migrant Youth

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Province II

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Requests New Interim Body: No

Directs an Interim Body: No

Directs Dfms Staff: Yes

Directs Dioceses: Yes

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: [New York Times: Alone and Exploited, Migrant Children Work Brutal Jobs Across the U.S.](#)

[New York Times: Solos y explotados, niños migrantes desempeñan trabajos crueles en EE. UU.](#)

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That this 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church call upon all members of the Church to become informed about the injustices of labor trafficking, particularly how it affects migrant youth; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church encourage its dioceses and congregations to engage in educational campaigns that raise awareness about labor trafficking, its signs, and prevention methods; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church advocate for comprehensive and enforceable policies at local, state, and national levels aimed at eradicating labor trafficking and protecting migrant youth; and be it further

Resolved, That the Office of Government Relations communicate this resolution to the appropriate legislative bodies, urging them to take decisive action against the exploitation of migrant youth.

Explanation

This resolution aims to galvanize The Episcopal Church to take a stand against the grave injustice of labor trafficking, focusing on the particularly vulnerable population of migrant youth. The Church is called to uphold the dignity and sanctity of every human being. Labor trafficking infringes upon the freedoms and inherent dignity of individuals, which is contrary to the teachings of Christ and the values of the Episcopal Church. Migrant youth are particularly vulnerable to exploitation due to various factors including economic instability, lack of legal protections, and social isolation. Through education and advocacy, the Church can play a pivotal role in both raising awareness and pushing for meaningful change that aligns with our commitment to justice and compassion for all.



Resolution Number: 2018-A178
Title: Denounce Inhumane Immigration Policies and Advocate on Behalf of Migrants
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church acknowledge the specific vulnerabilities and needs of immigrant women, parents and children in the current immigration crisis, both in the United States and globally; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention acknowledge that the U.S. government's intensification of and implementation of punitive immigration policies and practices, such as the detention and separation of children from parents and the practice of housing children in military bases, is inhumane and unjust, and only serves to traumatize the vulnerable, especially women and children; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church decry and call for a halt to the implementation and intensification of inhumane and unjust immigration policies and practices such as detaining and separating children from parents; ignoring the reproductive health needs of women and girls in detention centers and converting military bases to immigration detention centers for children; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention direct the Office of Government Relations and urge all Episcopalians to advocate for our governments to address the specific needs of women and children migrants and others with special vulnerabilities, by:

- **Keeping babies and children together with their parents and other responsible family members, and releasing families from immigration detention as a priority policy;**
- **Providing access to physical and mental health care to all in immigration detention, including to the full range of reproductive health care and sanitary products for women and girls;**
- **Ensuring the safety of all immigrants from sexual harassment, exploitation, and sex and labor trafficking, including women, children, youth, and elders; people with disabilities; and lesbian, gay, transgender and gender non-conforming persons;**
- **Deprioritizing immigration enforcement when deportation would mean parental separation from children and loss of needed family income, with exceptions for those with violent felony convictions;**
- **Preventing the release of immigration information from local law enforcement to ICE, except in cases of violent crime, so that people, including women, are not afraid to call local police to report domestic violence and other criminal activity, for fear of themselves or other family members being deported**

And be it further

Resolved, That this Convention urge Episcopalians and Episcopal Church-related agencies and organizations to support ministries in states that provide vulnerable migrants with basic needs, legal support, and advocacy.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 611-612.