

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A052
TITLE: Matters Pertaining to The Episcopal Church in Cuba
PROPOSER: Task Force on the Episcopal Church in Cuba
TOPIC: New Dioceses

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-B003 Strengthen the Relationship with the Episcopal Church of Cuba

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

2015-B002 Call for an End to the Cuban Embargo
2012-A020 Advocate Ending Travel Restrictions, Isolation, and Embargo Against Cuba
2009-B024 Encourage Annuity Fund for Cuban Church Clergy
2003-D050 Request the Release of Funds for the Diocese of Cuba
1997-D023 Extend Greetings to the Clergy and People of the Diocese of Cuba

Supplemental Documents: (Linked)

(Blue Book) Report to General Convention, [Task Force on The Episcopal Church in Cuba](#), see pages 774-775.

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1976 through 2015, 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 at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.

A052 Matters Pertaining to The Episcopal Church in Cuba

Proposer	Task Force on the Episcopal Church in Cuba
Topic	New Dioceses
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention welcomes with joy the request of the sisters and brothers of the Episcopal Church in Cuba to reunite with the Episcopal Church; and be it further
 - 2 *Resolved*, That the General Convention underscore its hope that the various dioceses of The Episcopal Church work in harmony and companionship with the Church in Cuba for evangelism, mutual understanding, and the full expression of God's mission; and be it further
 - 3 *Resolved*, That the General Convention call upon the congregations and members of The Episcopal Church to acquaint themselves with the ministries of the Church in Cuba; and be it further
 - 4 *Resolved*, That the General Convention call upon the dioceses and congregations of The Episcopal Church to consider ways in which they can be in relationship and partnership with the Church in Cuba going forward; and be it further
 - 5 *Resolved*, That the General Convention express its deep gratitude to the Anglican Church of Canada for its long and continuing support for the Church in Cuba; and be it further
 - 6 *Resolved*, That the General Convention request that all congregations keep the Church of Cuba in heartfelt and loving prayer; and be it further
 - 7 *Resolved*, That effective the conclusion of the 79th General Convention, the clergy of the Diocese of Cuba shall be eligible to participate in The Church Pension Fund International Clergy Pension Plan (ICPP), consistent with the terms of the ICPP, applicable law and subject to receipt of any necessary licenses from the Office of Foreign Assets Control (O.F.A.C.) or any other applicable governmental authority; and be it further
 - 8 *Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention requests that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance allocate for payment to The Church Pension Fund an amount
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equal to the actuarial liability associated with providing active clergy in the Diocese of Cuba with retroactive credited service under the ICPP for services performed for the Diocese of Cuba, subject to compliance with applicable laws and the receipt of any necessary licenses from O.F.A.C. or any other applicable governmental authority; and be it further

- 9 *Resolved*, That the General Convention support the formation of a 3-year interim body to accompany the Diocese of Cuba as it fully integrates into the Episcopal Church.

EXPLANATION

The body would consist of eight (8) members, four (4) from Cuba and four from other dioceses of the Episcopal Church to facilitate full integration into the life, ministry, and mission of the Episcopal Church. Budget request: \$ 50,000.



Resolution Number: 2015-B003
Title: Strengthen the Relationship with the Episcopal Church of Cuba
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention acknowledge and affirm The Episcopal Church of Cuba's recent synodical decision to request membership as a Diocese of the Episcopal Church; and identify and address the canonical issues (including those around pension) involved in pursuing such an intention; and be it further

Resolved, That the office of the Presiding Bishop and the Office of Global Partnerships take action to continue to strengthen the relationship between the Episcopal Church and La Iglesia Episcopal De Cuba, with the goal of promoting both greater understanding and fellowship between the Anglican Diocese of Cuba and particularly the Dioceses of The Episcopal Church located in the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That such efforts seek to promote mutual ministry and understanding through cultural exchange, prayer, worship, fellowship, education, and humanitarian work- identifying and facilitating specific opportunities for exchange, including but not limited to, travel, so that an exchange may occur between Cuban and North American Episcopalians; that such efforts seek to strengthen and support the Diocesan Center in Havana and The Episcopal Church, through the Executive Council, seek to collaboratively enhance and bolster theological education, discernment, and preparation of lay and ordained leaders for ministry within the Diocese of Cuba; and be it further

Resolved, As the United States and Cuba move cautiously toward a time of more open relationship, reconciliation and peace after long years of political conflict, That we encourage and support our nations leaders in moving to lift the embargo as we recognize the realities of the embargo and our hope for its end; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention reaffirm resolution GC2009-BO24 which called for the establishment of a benevolent fund that provides the clergy of The Episcopal Church in Cuba with an annuity upon retirement and requested the Presiding Bishop to take all actions as the Presiding Bishop deems necessary or desirable to carry out the intent of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church establish a team representative of a wide cross-section of the church including, but not limited to, Episcopal Relief & Development, Church Pension Fund and those experienced in foreign missions to work alongside the staff officer assigned in order to facilitate our collaboration around these endeavors with a budget of \$30,000.00 for the triennium.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 789-790.