

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A214
TITLE: Preparing for Admission of La Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba
PROPOSER: 06 - The Episcopal Church in Cuba
TOPIC: New Dioceses

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-B003 Strengthen the Relationship with the Episcopal Church of Cuba
2009-B024 Encourage Annuity Fund for Cuban Church Clergy

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

2015-A181 Study Costs of Pension Benefits in Foreign Dioceses

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.

A214 Preparing for Admission of La Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba

Proposer	06 - The Episcopal Church in Cuba
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	/
Current Status	Pre-Filed Resolution
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention commend the diligence of La Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba (IEC) in completing the following actions set forth by The Episcopal Church (TEC) Task Force on Cuba, based on 2015-B003: drafted changes to the Constitution and Canons of IEC; sent the changed Constitution and Canons to the Metropolitan Council; pledged in writing to conform with these expectations – submit an annual Diocesan Parochial Report to the Office of TEC, pay an Assessment to TEC, and provide a complete accounting of the financial assistance received from TEC; provided education for clergy and laity about TEC, Constitution and Canons, and the workings of General Convention; provided a proposed annual budget to TEC; provided Church Pension Fund with accurate reporting about active clergy and years of service, and retired clergy who are already in the Pension Fund; convened an Extraordinary Synod on May 11, 2018 to designate the choice of a province; and sent members to visit at the 79th General Convention; and be it further
- 2 *Resolved*, That while the 79th General Convention desires an immediate reunification, it recognizes that TEC has yet to attend to the structural and canonical requirements necessary and pledges to complete the following actions to welcome IEC as a Diocese of TEC at the 80th General Convention: addressing any constitutional and canonical issues presented in order to officially name IEC as a diocese of TEC, inviting the Bishop of Cuba to participate in the House of Bishops consistent with its rules of order, continuing to establish relationships with dioceses and congregations of TEC, and designating \$400,000 for the ongoing work of ministry and mission for IEC; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That immediately upon the close of business of the 79th General Convention, the active clergy of IEC shall become eligible to participate going forward in the International Clergy Pension Plan (ICPP) and its related plans, which will be administered by The Church Pension Fund (CPF) consistent with the terms of the ICPP, an administration agreement between IEC and CPF, and applicable law, including the receipt of any necessary licenses from the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) or any other applicable governmental authority; and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That TEC, IEC, and other potential ministry partners will, in consultation with CPF,

collaborate on a plan to fund the past service liability accrued by the active clergy of IEC; and be it further

- 5 *Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention support the formation of a 3-year interim body to accompany IEC and TEC as they fully reunify. The body would consist of eight (8) members, four (4) from IEC and four (4) from TEC to facilitate complete reunification of life, ministry, and mission; and be it further
- 6 *Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program Budget and Finance to consider a Budget allocation of \$400,000 for ministry and mission of IEC and \$50,000 for the interim body's work for the implementation of this resolution.

EXPLANATION

Resolution Number: 2015-BO03 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.



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.



Resolution Number: 2009-B024
Title: Encourage Annuity Fund for Cuban Church Clergy
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church encourages the establishment of a benevolent fund that will provide the clergy of The Episcopal Church in Cuba with an annuity upon retirement and requests the Presiding Bishop to take all such actions as the Presiding Bishop deems necessary or desirable to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 772.