

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-B007
TITLE: Ethical Investing in Gun Manufacturers
PROPOSER: The. Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher
TOPIC: Socially Responsible Investment

Directly Related: (Attached)

None

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

2015-B008	Support Handgun Purchaser Licensing
2015-C005	Implement Laws to Decrease Gun Violence
2000-B007	Request the Removal of Handguns and Assault Weapons
2000-D004	Express Concern About Availability of Handguns and Assault Weapons

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.

B007 Ethical Investing in Gun Manufacturers

Proposer	The Rt. Rev. Douglas Fisher
Endorsed by	Lee, The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey; Waldo, The Rt. Rev. W. Andrew
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	HD / 18 - Stewardship & Socially Responsible Investing
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention encourage dioceses, church organizations and individual Episcopalians to practice shareholder engagement by investing in the publicly traded stock of gun manufacturers and retailers in order to encourage these companies to do everything in their power to minimize lethal and criminal uses of their products, and be it further
- Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention commend to the church the Mosbacher-Bennett Principles for Investors in the Gun Industry developed by Do Not Stand Idly By.

EXPLANATION

This resolution encourages Episcopal investors, both corporate and individual, to build on the success of the shareholder resolution filed in early 2018 by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and several other faith-based investors in Dick's Sporting Goods. That shareholder engagement effort, reported by Episcopal News Service on February 28, influenced the retailer's decision to stop selling assault weapons and to adopt a number of other positions and practices consistent with the Sandy Hook Principles, which were endorsed by the Episcopal Church's Executive Council in June 2017 (Resolution AN 025).

Do Not Stand Idly By is a community organizing initiative that urges faith organizations to practice shareholder engagement as a way to reduce gun violence. The initiative is a campaign of Metro-IAF, a part of the Industrial Areas Foundation multi-faith community organizing network. It includes citizens' groups rooted in religious congregations in 10 U.S. states and the District of Columbia.

Specifically, Do Not Stand Idly By pressures gun companies to improve the operations, supply chains and policies of gun manufacturers and retailers and to develop and market safer gun technology. Do Not Stand Idly By's Mosbacher Bennett Principles for Investors in the Gun Industry (donotstandidlyby.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Mosbacher-Bennett-Principles-for-Gun-Industry-Investors.pdf) were developed by its co-chairs, Rabbi Joel Mosbacher and Pastor Anthony Bennett. A copy has been provided and is available in the General Convention Secretariat.