

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-C001
TITLE: Reduced Enforcement of Immigration
PROPOSER: North Carolina
TOPIC: Immigration

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-D048 Support Immigration Actions for Youth and Parents
2015-D074 Extend Temporary Protective Status to Immigrants Fleeing Abuse
2009-B006 Advocate for Immigration Reform
1997-D081 Develop Advocacy Agenda of Refugee Admissions and Asylum
1985-D113 Request Congress to Reform Immigration Legislation
1982-A063 Encourage Relief for Refugees

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

2015-D077 Urge Partnerships to Support Immigrant Families
2015-D057 Recommit to Giving Sanctuary to Immigrants
2012-D059 Halt Unjust Immigration Enforcement
2012-D067 Support the DREAM Act

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.

C001 Reduced Enforcement of Immigration

Proposer	Diocese of North Carolina
Topic	Immigration
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	HB / 08 - Social Justice and United States Policy
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, in keeping with our mission to be a voice of Christian compassion, mercy, and justice, support decreased Federal funds for immigration enforcement, detention, deportation, and border militarization (including the border wall). Pursuing these practices as presently proposed by the U.S. Government directly violates the dignity of those subject to the enforcement and the biblical command to love one's neighbor as one's self.

EXPLANATION

No explanation.



Resolution Number: 2015-D048
Title: Support Immigration Actions for Youth and Parents
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention urge The Episcopal Church to support the goals of expanded immigration relief for youth and parents designed to keep families together, as outlined in the expanded Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parental Accountability (DAPA) executive actions; and be it further
Resolved, That The Episcopal Church re-affirm 2009-B006 which advocates for immigration reform.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 408.



Resolution Number: 2015-D074
Title: Extend Temporary Protective Status to Immigrants Fleeing Abuse
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the General Convention of The Episcopal Church welcome and affirm the bipartisan initiative of Reps. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Eliot Engel (D-NY), Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Albio Sires (D-NJ), Carlos Curbelo (R-FL), Tony Cardenas (D-CA), Robert Dold (R-IL), Juan Vargas (D-CA), David Valadao (R-CA), and Joaquin Castro (D-TX), urging President Obama to immediately extend Temporary Protective Status (TPS) to Guatemalans living in the United States with the hope of creating a path to citizenship for this group; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church advocate through education, communication, and representation before legislative authorities for TPS for all immigrants fleeing for refuge from violence, environmental disaster, economic devastation, or cultural abuse or other forms of abuse; and be it further

Resolved, That this Resolution be communicated to the President of the United States and to the members of Congress of the United States.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 407-408.



Resolution Number: 2009-B006
Title: Advocate for Immigration Reform
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention recognize that all people living in the United States are entitled to protection provided by due process of law and that all immigrants and their families are entitled to receive protection granted by our laws and Constitution; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention call for a moratorium on roadside checkpoints and raids carried out by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at work sites, transportation systems, community gatherings, places of worship, lawful assemblies and private residences leaving families torn apart and children parentless and negatively affecting businesses, workers and communities; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention advocate for a return of congressional consideration and implementation of comprehensive immigration reform which will allow millions of undocumented immigrants who have established roots in the United States and are often parents and spouses of U.S. Citizens to have a pathway to legalization and to full social and economic integration in to the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention deplore conditions found in immigration detention centers and the over-reliance on a costly prison-like detention system for immigrants, and urge the uses of alternatives to detention, and calls for accountability and oversight to ensure detainees are provided with humanitarian treatment, adequate food and medical care and sanitary conditions; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention call for termination of any program which allows or funds local enforcement agencies to enforce immigration law, and return that enforcement to Federal Immigration Agents, leaving local law enforcement agencies the work of keeping communities safe and dedicating their resources to that end, and provide for a sense of safety for immigrant victims of crimes to come forward and report without fear of detention and deportation; and be it further

Resolved, That in as much as youth are a priority of The Episcopal Church, the 76th General Convention support the provision of conditional legal status for undocumented youth who arrived as infants and/or children and have grown up as members of our communities and schools, providing for them the opportunity to pursue higher education and/or serve the United States so they can become full contributing members of our communities and could eventually become U.S. Citizens.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 142.



Resolution Number: 1997-D081
Title: Develop Advocacy Agenda of Refugee Admissions and Asylum
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 72nd General Convention of the Episcopal Church charge Episcopal Migration Ministries with the responsibility for developing and implementing an advocacy agenda which reflects the concern of the Episcopal Church that the U.S. Government uphold a generous program of refugee admissions in response to the worldwide refugee crisis, maintain a just system of asylum for persecuted persons seeking safety in the United States, and ensure that needy immigrants are not unfairly denied access to essential services and benefits.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Philadelphia, 1997* (New York: General Convention, 1998), p. 250.



Resolution Number: 1985-D113
Title: Request Congress to Reform Immigration Legislation
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That this 68th General Convention, as it has in the past, call upon Congress to enact immigration legislation of a positive nature that will recognize human realities of the millions of undocumented people in the country, provide for appropriate asylum and safe haven for those fleeing political repression from abroad, and will eliminate the many repressive features contained in the present Senate bill, S. 1200; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to all members of the United States Senate, and to the members of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives; and be it further

Resolved, That all deputies to this Convention, as individuals and through the appropriate social concerns committees of their churches, write to their respective United States Senators.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 257.



Resolution Number: 1982-A063
Title: Encourage Relief for Refugees
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That this 67th General Convention of the Episcopal Church commend the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief and Church World Service for their leadership in facilitating the resettlement of refugees and for promoting a United States refugee and immigration policy which in principle and implementation opposes any discrimination on the basis of race, religion, geography, nationality, sexual orientation or language; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention call upon the Clergy and Lay Persons in our provinces, dioceses and local congregations to encourage in their several communities a freer acceptance of refugees and immigrants, especially in areas of high employment potential or other feasible places; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention urge the President of the United States and the Congress to welcome by a uniform federal code to our shores refugees and immigrants in proportion as our nation is able to provide shelter, training, education and sustenance on a continuing basis, without discrimination as to race, geographic origin, nationality, sexual orientation or language, and in particular to cease the inhuman treatment accorded in recent years to refugees from Haiti and El Salvador; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention further urge the President of the United States and the Congress to enact refugee and immigrant related legislation, rules and procedures after seeking consultation, coordination and cooperation with other nations which would be impacted by such legislation, rules and procedures; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention recognize that future refugee and immigrant problems cannot disappear without active work for the improvement of the quality of life in developing countries, and therefore, urge enlarged support for long-term developmental programs within Third World countries; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention urge the President and the Congress to adopt policies that will grant permanent resident status to overstayed/undocumented persons who have resided in the United States for a definite and reasonable period of time and have come here because of political economic stress.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982* (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-131.