

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-C039
TITLE: C040
PROPOSER: Province I
TOPIC: Affirm and Endorse The Cambridge Accord

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-A030 Support Ecologically Responsible Stewardship of Church Property
2009-B001 On the Topic of Amending the Parochial Report to Include Energy Consumption
(Rejected)

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 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.

C039 Amend Parochial Report

Proposer	Province I
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	HB / 20 - Environmental Stewardship and Care of Creation
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 direct the Executive Council and Committee on the State of the Church to amend the Parochial Report to include data on the annual consumption and costs of electricity, oil, and gas of all church properties.

EXPLANATION

The availability of such data will enable individual churches, deaneries, dioceses, and Provinces to aggregate their energy consumption and take their demand to the marketplace. The Episcopal Church then can become partners rather than just consumers in energy generation and infrastructure. With the guidance of recommended experts and institutions, savings of up to 30% or more can be expected. Eventually membership may include parishioners and their homes and businesses.

Among those experts we would recommend:

1. The USEPA Energy Star for Congregations program. (126 Episcopal congregations and 4 Dioceses are members)
2. Catholic Energies
3. Renewable Energy Partnership
4. Vermont Energy Investment and its spinoffs
 - o Commons Energy
 - o How to Start Your own ESCO



Resolution Number: 2015-A030
Title: Support Ecologically Responsible Stewardship of Church Property
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society is directed to implement a program to develop parish and diocesan resources designed to support local ecologically responsible stewardship of church-related properties and buildings. The program shall be implemented in cooperation with an Advisory Council on the Stewardship of Creation composed of one person from each province by April 1, 2016. Each province member of the Advisory Council shall convene, in their respective provinces, Regional Consultive Groups ("RCG's") on the Stewardship of Creation. Each RCG shall be comprised of no fewer than five experts in areas of environmental sustainability appropriate to the demographic, ecological, cultural and geographic specifics of each region. These should include, but not be limited to, consultants in food and water security, property development, alternative energy, and engineering. Each RCG will also include theologians, educators and liturgists to provide resources in education and formation. These RCGs shall:

1. Compile and develop theological and formational material for teaching the theology of stewardship of creation;
2. Create networks designed to share ideas and information for practical application among the regions, such as sustainable development and green conversions of church-related properties, including without limitation, energy audits, solar conversions and other alternative energy, community gardens, and development of fallow property;
3. Be available for consultation to the Dioceses and Parishes.

The Advisory Council on the Stewardship of Creation shall create a structure for allocation of money to fund RCG initiatives at Parish and Diocesan levels within a year of the 78th General Convention, and serve as the granting body; and be it further

Resolved, That \$700,000 be allocated for this purpose, which includes the \$500,000 already allocated to the Fifth Mark of Mission, so that \$100,000 will be available for the support of the RCGs themselves, and \$600,000 be available to provide direct grants to Dioceses and Parishes in the implementation of these programs and support of measurable pilot projects. Of the \$100,000 funding the RCGs, \$40,500 is to be allocated for the Task Force meetings. Recognizing that this is new work, and a newly formed taskforce, they shall convene in person for their initial meeting, and thereafter determine their needs for future meetings, with funding available for them to meet once yearly. The remaining \$59,500 is to be used for regional meetings of the RCGs according to regional needs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Advisory Council shall report back to the 79th General Convention on the progress and ongoing results at the local and provincial levels.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 882-883.



Resolution Number: 2009-B001
Title: On the Topic of Amending the Parochial Report to Include Energy Consumption
Legislative Action Taken: Rejected
Text of Resolution:

Resolved, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 76th General Convention amend the Parochial Report to include data on the annual energy consumption in total costs of electricity, oil and gas of all Church properties.