

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-C049  
**TITLE:** Support Producers of Locally Grown Food  
**PROPOSER:** Province III  
**TOPIC:** Economic Development

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-A091 Advocate for a Just Food System  
2006-A130 On the Topic of the Practice of Sustainable Agriculture (Rejected)  
2000-C034 Increase Awareness of Problems of Farmers and Rural Areas  
1979-D144 Call Upon Members to Exercise a Responsible Life Style

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

2015-A170 Advocate for Safe Food Production and Farm Labor Policies  
2003-C036 Provide the Church with Information About Food Source Issues

*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.*

# C049 Support Producers of Locally Grown Food

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<b>Proposer</b>	Province III
<b>Endorsed by</b>	
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
<b>HiA / Leg. Cttee</b>	HB / 20 - Environmental Stewardship and Care of Creation
<b>Current Status</b>	Resolution Filed
<b>Version</b>	Original (as filed)
<b>Review Status</b>	Not yet reviewed

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## RESOLUTION TEXT

1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That this 79th General Convention of the Episcopal Church urges the staff of the mission priority, Stewardship of Creation, to include programs and grants which will encourage Episcopal institutions and individual Episcopalians to serve and promote locally grown food.

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## EXPLANATION

Based on this resolution adopted by the Diocese of Delaware:

RESOLVED, That the 233rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Delaware requests the Bishop and Council to explore the feasibility of allocating a defined percentage of its total annual food expenditure for Camp Arrowhead, Memorial House, and diocesan events, to food locally grown or freshly processed food for meals at Camp Arrowhead, Memorial House, etc. directly through its food service contractors, and be it further

RESOLVED, That this 233rd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Delaware urge diocesan institutions, schools and parishes, as they provide, prepare and serve meals and distribute food at events and ministries, to make every effort to use locally grown and processed foods, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the 233rd Convention encourages further discussion among all parishes and the Trustees of the Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Delaware to plan and implement what can be referred to as the Go(o)d Food Challenge, a potential model for the Diocese.

Explanation: The Diocese of Delaware recognizes that improving the economic well-being and vitality of its family farming communities within the State of Delaware could, in part, be driven by increasing the purchasing, serving and promotion of local food, grown in the Delmarva region: Delaware, and the Eastern Shores of Maryland and Virginia.

The Diocese has the opportunity to play a leadership role in strengthening these communities and food sector by promoting and sharing God's creation and life-sustaining bounty for all Delawareans through supporting these local farmers, food entrepreneurs; regional initiatives promoting healthy eating and reducing hunger.

Support local food farmers who use sustainable agricultural practices to rebuild regional soil health, thereby becoming better stewards of creation.

Support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by reducing carbon emissions via shortening the diocese's food service supply chain.

Affirm the church's values, connection and commitment to the spiritual and physical well-being of its entire parish community.

Affirm the belief that God's creation is for all, especially those who are least likely to have access to it.

Affirm the interdependent relationship between rural and urban, upstate and downstate, farmer and eater, communities.

Celebrate our local farmers as stewards of creation.

Establish a new model which extends the national church's commitment to its agricultural/food, relief and development ministries.

Build on the Episcopal Church's reputation as an innovator through faith.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-A091  
**Title:** Advocate for a Just Food System  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 78th General Convention affirm the work and projects being carried out across the Church in food ministry, including food pantries, feeding programs, community gardens, educational programs, and advocacy for programs that provide healthy, culturally appropriate food; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 78th General Convention encourages the further development of Native and Indigenous community food programs, such as the program in Navajoland Area Mission that maintains and teaches traditional growing methods and food preparation techniques; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 78th General Convention call on dioceses, congregations, and all the baptized to deepen our understanding of the moral, cultural, and environmental relationships associated with food systems, through educational programs focused on: sustainability, equity, cultural diversity, and accessibility of all people to healthy food; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this Convention call on dioceses, congregations, and all the baptized to deepen our commitments as Christian communities to address food insecurity, food-related health issues, and food-related environmental effects in our communities and nations, through new and creative community, regional, and ecumenical projects, such as school and community gardens, church garden tithing to food banks, involvement with migrant worker and farm worker ministries, and food-worker organizing; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this Convention call on dioceses, congregations, and all the baptized to increase our involvement in advocacy for the development and maintenance of sustainable; equitable; culturally appropriate; and accessible food systems.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 732.



**Resolution Number:** 2006-A130  
**Title:** On the Topic of the Practice of Sustainable Agriculture  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Rejected [Died with Adjournment]  
**Text of Resolution:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 75th General Convention, *in recognition that the needs of the poor must be considered if advances in science and technology are to serve justice*, instruct the Committee on Science, Technology and Faith (ST&F) to explore theological, social, scientific and technological connections between *practicing sustainable agriculture having a sustainable food supply, locally and globally*, and reducing poverty to create societies that are more just; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Committee develop educational materials for the Church through its *electronic resource center Resource Center* and other channels on the means to establishing a just and sustainable food supply.



**Resolution Number:** 2000-C034  
**Title:** Increase Awareness of Problems of Farmers and Rural Areas  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention of the Episcopal Church call upon the members of this Church to become more aware of the social and economic problems facing farming and rural communities in these United States; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Episcopal Church become aware of past and present discriminatory practices in the granting of federal subsidies and loans to African American and other minority farmers; and be it further*

*Resolved, That members of this church pray for and support those who farm the land and their families, and find ways to provide better pastoral and neighborly care to farm families facing dislocation and to communities in decline; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Washington office be instructed to advocate for public policies that:*

- **Ensure farmers a just income including adequate compensation for the costs of production;**
- **Promote sustainable agricultural practices;**
- **Protect and preserve agricultural land;**
- **Create opportunities for beginning farmers;**
- **Provide those wishing to leave farming with job counseling and training as well as assistance with legal and financial advice; and**
- **Support healthcare access, education, jobs, housing, and other services in rural communities.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 439f.



**Resolution Number:** 1979-D144  
**Title:** Call Upon Members to Exercise a Responsible Life Style  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 66th General Convention calls every Member of this Church to exercise a responsible life style based on real personal needs commensurate with a world of limited resources by:*

**Conserving energy in our homes, jobs, parishes, communities, travels, and leisure activities;**

**Altering our own eating and consumption habits;**

**Planning family size in a responsible manner;**

and be it further

*Resolved, That the General Convention commends to every Member of this Church the spiritual resources of prayer and meditation and pastoral support as persons encounter the tensions of a changing life style, and be it further*

*Resolved, That this Convention calls on the several Committees, Commissions, and Agencies of this Church to exercise a responsible life style in planning the meetings and conferences to be held.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 1979* (New York: General Convention, 1980), p. C-125.