

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-D040
TITLE: The Status of Women Church Musicians
PROPOSER: The Rev. Terri Grotzinger
TOPIC: Women

Directly Related: (Attached)

None

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

2009-A094	Direct a Plan Be Devised for the Recruitment and Training of Music Leaders
1997-B027	Prepare Liturgical Music Supplements by and About Women
1994-A092	Authorize the Leadership Program for Musicians Serving in Small Churches
1985-C023	Eradicate Institutional Sexism and Pursue Affirmative Action
1985-D027	Appoint a Group to Study the Participation of Women in Church Life
1985-D055	Examine the Employment Conditions of Church Musicians
1976-C066	Consider Ways of Fostering Fair Employment Practices for Women in Ministry

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.

D040 The Status of Women Church Musicians

Proposer	The Rev. Terri Grotzinger
Endorsed by	Wirth, The Rev. Canon Bradley; Russell, Ms. Laura
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	HB / 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy and Music
Current Status	Pre-Filed Resolution
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention directs the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to study the status of Women Musicians in the Episcopal Church, specifically considering the following: the status of resources within congregations and dioceses for the development of young musicians, specifically young women musicians; assistance for the encouragement of women who wish to become stipendiary church musicians; what percentage of women are full-time stipendiary musicians compared to men; what percentage of women are found in the final slate of candidates; and what is the percentage of stipendiary women church musicians in other denominations and, if higher, learn from them possible avenues to increase employment of women musicians within the Episcopal Church; and be it further
- Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention request that the body to which this Resolution is referred to report its findings to the 80th General Convention.

EXPLANATION

There are a number of Resolutions before the 79th General Convention calling for the creation of Task Forces or other interim bodies to deal with issues related to women and specifically issues related to women in the Church in various capacities. For that reason, this Resolution does not propose another such body. In the event that General Convention chooses not to create an interim body dealing specifically with issues of women in the Church, Canon I.1 (2) (viii) empowers the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to serve the Church in matters pertaining to policies and strategies concerning Church music.

There is a dearth of women stipendiary church musicians in the Episcopal Church employed particularly in larger churches and Cathedrals where the compensation is full time or greater than that in smaller congregations. While the number of women in Holy Orders has been increasing, as well as the number of women called to be Bishops, Deans and Rectors, that same trend does not hold true for women musicians even though the number of women in graduate programs in music has increased. We are failing to acknowledge the spiritual gifts and calling of young girls and women to the ministry of music and thereby we are possibly diminished in the eyes of women with respect to the absence of stipendiary women musicians.

In the spirit of Canon I. 1. (2) (viii) we need to consider policies and strategies to ascertain the extent

of the lack of women stipendiary church musicians and then consider policies and strategies to rectify the situation.